

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

CEC appeals Article 12 ruling to 9th Circuit. PAGE 5
2nd Annual Spring Musical enraptures Saipan audience. PAGE 20

Marianas Stars
Entertainment, Inc.

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PEOPLE
OF
CNMI
DESERVE
MORE.



LEGEND
OF THE
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INTEGRATED
THEME PARK
&
CASINO
RESORT,
SAIPAN

Tony Babauta: DOI report reaffirms acts were legit

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Anthony Babauta said the release by the Department of the Interior's Office of Inspector General's investigative report about his conduct in office supported his contention all along that he didn't do anything wrong with regards to the awarding of grants.



Babauta

"I have reviewed the final investigation report conducted by the Department of the Interior's Office of Inspector General and I am satisfied it reaffirms that my official acts and decisions as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Areas were legitimate endeavors to improve the quality of life for areas under my responsibility," said the former assistant secretary for Insular Affairs in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

See DOI on Page 4

CNMI far from average
of having 40 pct.
educated workforce

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI has less than the average of having a 40 percent educated workforce, based on the results of a study commissioned by the Northern Marianas College.

See WORKFORCE on Page 4



Hart



WHERE'S THE BEEF?

MARK RABAGO

Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, left, explains to members of the House of Representatives during last Wednesday's budget session how the island's beef initiative and plans to export livestock to Guam is hampered by the lack of surface vessels. Dela Cruz said Tinian's cattle ranchers are expected to increase its head of cattle from the current 2,000 to about 5,000 next year.

3-month delay in CHC housing allowance

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Many employees of the Commonwealth Health Center are dismayed and fear anew the instability of their employment after volunteering that their housing privilege has been delayed for three months now.

Saipan Tribune learned that the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. owes staff housing benefits for the months of April, May, and June.

In a statement yesterday from corporation CEO Esther L. Muna, she disclosed plans to issue checks for the three months' worth of

housing allowance.

"We're paying all dues today. I don't

**» CEO Muña
vows to pay
all dues today**

have the numbers now but they will be paid today," Muña told *Saipan Tribune*.

She did not disclose where the source of the funding will come from.

A hospital employee, who spoke on condition of anonymity, was elated with the good news, but admitted that many are beginning to fear the stability of the corporation.

A registered nurse at CHC also confided that she was forced to adjust her monthly expenses to include her housing expense, on top of high utility bills.

"We're hoping this situation will not

See CHC on Page 4



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Public hearing sought for casino commish nominees

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation wants the nominees for the newly created Commonwealth Casino Commission to go through a public hearing before being confirmed.

Senate Floor Leader Pete Reyes (IR-Saipan) was the first to suggest the public hearing for nominees Maria Frica T. Pangelinan, David C. Sablan, and Alvaro A. Santos during yesterday's delegation session on Capitol Hill.

Pangelinan is a former lawmaker who is on the board of the Marianas Public Land Trust, while Santos is a former chief financial officer of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. Sablan, meanwhile, is a well-known businessman.

Reyes said the delegation would be wise to adopt the procedures in screening nominees that the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations regularly conducts.

He said a public hearing similar to what the Senate's EAGI conducts would compel the Casino Commission nominees to attend their session and allow members of the community to speak for or against their nomination.

Earlier House Vice Speaker Francisco Dela Cruz (IR-Saipan) said that it is only right for the nominees to attend the SNILD session on their con-

fimation because it would not be "fair posing questions to ourselves" with regards to the nominees' qualifications in becoming members of the commission.

He added that if the local delegation is not given a chance to quiz the nominees, the whole process would appear to be "another case of haste and confirm and approve before finding out what happens after."

Dela Cruz told colleagues that they owe it to themselves to have the Casino Commission nominees to be present during their confirmation hearing.

The 21-member SNILD is tasked to either confirm or reject the governor's appointees to the Casino Commission. Tinian and Rota legislative delegations are also tasked to do the same when it comes to their respective mayors' nominees.

While the Lottery Commission decides whether to grant an exclusive Saipan casino license and to whom by June 19, the Casino Commission will be tasked to regulate the industry.

Under the Saipan casino law, Casino Commission members will be compensated \$40,000 on the first year, and then \$20 an hour for official meetings in succeeding years. The governor said the retiree appointees have the option to continue to receive their pension or get their commission compensation. (Mark Rabago)

Empowering Saipan!



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BEST SUNSHINE
International

Guam gets ready to host 12th Festival of Pacific Arts

SUVA, Fiji—Members of the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture are impressed by the progress being made by Guam in preparing to host the region and the world at the 12th Festival of Pacific Arts in May 2016. They showed their support and appreciation when they met recently (May 27–29) in Fiji at the 26th Meeting of the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture, for which the Secretariat of the Pacific Community is the secretariat.

Guam will play host to all the nations of the Pacific, including Rapa Nui, Norfolk Island, and Hawaii, from May 22 to June 4, 2016, under the theme of “What we own, what

we have, what we share: united voices of the Pacific.”

Jacqueline Balbas, program coordinator for the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency, updated the members of the Council on their preparations.

The FestPac Coordinating Committee is in place, with six working subcommittees dealing with programming, logistics, volunteers, marketing, finance and ceremonies, all of which started their work in November last year. Workshops have been held and the artistic disciplines that will feature at the festival include visual arts, literary arts, performing arts, traditional arts, and forums and seminars. Preparations will

go into full gear in early 2015.

The festival is estimated to cost US\$13 million, funded through government appropriations and the private sector. A trust fund was established for this purpose. The Bank of Guam and United Airlines are key partners, and negotiations with telecommunications, fuel, hotel, automobile, and shipping sponsors are ongoing.

A local public relations campaign for the festival was launched in May this year, with the Guam Visitors Bureau as the festival marketing lead. In 2014, the focus will be on-island public relations, and in 2015 off-island marketing will begin. The year 2016 will see increased event excitement. In-

formation about shipping needs, charter flight needs, and anticipated sizes of delegations will be obtained through responses to surveys sent to SPC member countries. Collaboration with the South Pacific Tourism Organization is being planned to promote the festival in the region and beyond.

The 26th meeting of the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture was held at *Vale ni Bose Levu Vakaturga* in Suva, Fiji. The meeting chair was Guam (host of the 12th Festival of Pacific Arts in 2016) and the vice chair was Hawaii (proposed host of the 13th Festival of Pacific Arts in 2020). The Council discussed a wide range of issues relating to the Festival of Pacific Arts

and promotion of the culture sector in the region. The Council has 27 members and SPC, was formed in 1975 for the pur-

pose of managing the Festival of Pacific Arts and promoting cultural development in the region. (SPC)

CHC

From Page 1

continue. We don't want to experience the same feeling we had in 2011,” the employee said yesterday, adding that the housing privilege accorded to off-island recruits is one of the biggest motivations why they continue to stay.

This housing benefit is accorded only to off-island hires, majority of whom are nurses recruited from the Philippines

CHCC gives a \$600 monthly housing allowance for single employees recruited from off-island and \$800 each month for those with families.

In fiscal year 2011, the allowance was delayed up to seven months. However, due to significant improvement in the hospital's collections and revenues, the corporation was able to pay this obligation little by little until the total arrears were paid off.

In recent separate meetings of both the CHCC board and the Marianas Public Land Trust, it was learned that the corpora-

tion's financial condition is in a “poor state” as a result of a significant decline in collections and revenues.

After the CHCC paid its \$3-million loan with MPLT in April, it was disclosed that little is left in its bank account.

CHCC, which was approved a one-year extension of the line of credit, had asked last week to drawdown the funds, the bulk of which will go to payroll, vendors, and other critical needs of the hospital.

The housing allowance is among the benefits that may be cut or terminated if financial challenges continue at the hospital.

Corporation officials earlier disclosed that many employees have signed a new contract, which incorporates salary adjustments to cover a portion of their housing benefit. Among these employees are physicians who were recruited from outside the CNMI.

Saipan Tribune learned that CHCC has over a hundred employees receiving housing allowances.

WORKFORCE

From Page 1

According to NMC president Dr. Sharon Y. Hart, the Commonwealth will have an extremely challenging time in reaching U.S. President Barack Obama's goal of 60 percent. But the CNMI, Hart said, must proceed in this direction.

“Though the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future is not a university entity, the administration of the MCSF grant was an important effort by UOG to provide assistance to the Micronesian Chief Executives and directly correlates to our regional mission. UOG remains an active partner of the region by providing research, technical assistance and service through the OIA investigation.

“UOG followed government policies in regards to the selection and contracting of the MCSF coordinator and adhered to procurement law for purchases under the MCSF grant,” it said.

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“UOG said the investigative report has not affected the ability of UOG to apply for and receive grant funding from DOI and other federal agencies.

“We are grateful for the work and support of Assistant Secretary Babauta during his tenure in office and for the opportunity to participate in many projects and activities which are of continuing benefit for the people of the region as well as the University of Guam,” the UOG statement adds.

And, as the CNMI needs to

replace the CW workforce in the future, this task becomes even more daunting, Hart said, especially as CW workers possess more bachelor's degrees than the CNMI's own local population base.

What is critical, Hart said, is that good-faith discussions must take place now with the business community and with government leaders.

“We can positively impact and grow an educated workforce, but it will require that we all work together, develop a comprehensive educational plan for the future, and ensure adequate resources are made available to help us, from K to 12, to accomplish our education and training goals,” she said.

She said that the CNMI must establish statewide goals that will enable stakeholders to focus time and resources on a common and committed effort. Supporting this initiative will get everybody on the same page whereby they can then set annual priorities, evaluate progress, and celebrate its coming successes.

“All of this, in my opinion, is achievable. NMC has significant plans on how we are going to move forward on this. We are being extremely aggressive, but we need to be, because we are that ‘engine for economic growth’ in the CNMI. But, you can't run an engine when you are out of gas,” she added.

President Obama and his administration have set goals for an educated workforce that targets roughly 60 percent of Americans to earn college degrees and certificates by 2020 to regain international lead, compared with about 40 percent today.



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Armi R. Hunter, who is celebrating her special day today! Wishing you an awesome day full of joy and fun. Cheers and much love to ya! Greetings coming out from the Kisa-Camacho family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DOI

From Page 1

He, however, acknowledged that there are some appearances of conflicts in his past actions, “but I trusted then, as I do now, that my personal relationships with island leaders had no bearing in how I made a final decision. I consider those whom I interacted with, and were subjects of this investigation, to be outstanding leaders and faithful public servants. No one worked to betray the public's trust.”

The DOI investigative report found that, against the advice of his staff and grant specialists, Babauta directed the award of two OIA grants to the University of Guam to support the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future.

The report said both grants went to Babauta's former employer, a UOG senior official, and UOG subsequently hired Babauta's friend as the MCSF project coordinator.

“Our investigation revealed that UOG allowed the MCSF project coordinator to expend \$32,636.34 in grant funds on unallowable expenses, many of which were of personal benefit to the MCSF project coordinator,” stated the investigative report made public yesterday.

The report may be viewed at www.doi.gov/oig/reports/upload/BabautaPublic1.pdf.

Public apology

Babauta was contrite on allega-

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS Class of 1984 30th Year gathering

This is to inform the MHS Class of 1984 that there will be a 30th year reunion celebration on Saturday, June 7, 2014, at 6pm at Kanoa Resort. Admission is \$25 per person. Call Roy Pangalinan at 287-7697 or Diego Masga 287-1065 for more information. (PR)

Kataki (The Enemy) to be staged at Sugar King Park

The Friends of the Arts will be

staging Shimon Wincelberg's *Kataki (The Enemy)*, at Sugar King Park on June 7 and 8, from 5pm to 7pm, beginning with an optional tour of the Park. Tickets cost \$15 for the general public, \$12 for members of the Friends of the Arts, \$8 for students, and \$5 for Thespians. The play will be enacted on the grass in the center of the park under the large fallen tree. For more information or reservations contact Frank Gibson by telephone at 287-7476 or by e-mail at flgib-

son@yahoo.com. (FOA)

CCA board meeting on June 17

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on Tuesday, June 17, 2014, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the association at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarinas.org. (CCA)

tions that he made inappropriate comments to employees and conducted himself unprofessionally at times.

“DOI's report also commented on personal matters. I am embarrassed because of it and publicly apologize to my family. It has been nearly a year and a half since I resigned my office. I continue to value the honor and privilege of having served in my capacity and to have worked in changing the direction of policy and improving relationships between the federal government and the U.S. territories and Freely Associated States,” he said.

The report also states that Babauta had one OIA employee perform work outside the scope of his government duties.

“We...found that Babauta resided at the guesthouse of one subordinate employee for several months without providing compensation. We did not find evidence that Babauta used government travel for personal gain, but there were certain trips for government business in which he appeared to benefit personally,” the report states.

Despite his unceremonious exit from the OIA, Babauta said he is still proud of his achievements while in office.

“I am a strong believer in the initiatives that I put forth to empower island constituencies. I feel that my agenda which included implementing renewable energy, building capacity of non-profit organiza-

tions, encouraging economic development, providing decision-makers and the public with information about their economies and the state of their public schools, building capacity and supporting education, hospitals, first responders, local initiatives to improve accountability, and promoting island cultures, was worthwhile. I am grateful for the support that many have expressed to me for my term in office and I am happy that this final report brings closure to my tenure. I will continue working toward improving our islands and look forward to opportunities to return to public service.”

On Oct. 19, 2012, the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of the Solicitor brought allegations to the Office of the Inspector General that Babauta mistreated his employees through discrimination and sexual harassment, misused government equipment and personnel, and took personal trips under the guise of official business.

These allegations originated from OIA employees, some of whom filed Equal Employment Opportunity complaints against him.

UOG reaction

In a statement, University of Guam said it stands by its record in competing for federal grants and in its administration of grant projects from multiple federal agencies.

It said UOG managed over

110 grants in fiscal year 2013, infusing over \$38 million into the economies of Guam and the region. It also defended MCSF and the entity's involvement in the OIA investigation.

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TO REVERSE RULING ON ARTICLE 12 INITIATIVE

CEC, officials appeal to 9th Circuit

The Commonwealth Election Commission and its officials are appealing to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Santos is new NMC Foundation president

The Northern Marianas College Foundation announced yesterday that it has a new president in the person of Joseph C. Santos, who succeeds Dr. Alan Stuart Markoff to the post.

According to Santos, the Foundation is very enthusiastic about fundraising to assist NMC in accomplishing its mission and is excited about working with the community.

He announced yesterday the upcoming 11th NMC Foundation Open golf tournament scheduled on June 28 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. This event is the foundation's biggest fundraiser every year.

"We humbly seeking the community's support for the upcoming in both participation and sponsorship," said Santos, adding that all gifts and donations will directly benefit NMC.

in advancing educational opportunities for all students.

Santos also congratulated the college for the recent reaffirmation of its accreditation.

"Congratulations to NMC on the being reaffirmed as an accredited community college, a magnificent accomplishment by the Board of Regents and [NMC] president [Dr. Sharon] Hart," said Santos.

The Board of Regents established the NMC Foundation in 1999. It is a non-profit organization and its primary task is to handle a federal endowment fund of \$3 million for the college.

The foundation's board of directors is composed of Markoff, Santos, David Burger, Jerry Facey, Bud White, David Sablan, Jack Kiyoshi, Lillian Cabrera, and Michael Ernest. (Moneth G. Deposa)

to reverse the federal court's recent ruling on the Article 12 initiative matter.

The commission, CEC chair Frances M. Sablan, and CEC executive director Robert A. Guerrero, through assistant attorney general Charles Brasington, are appealing to reverse U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona's decision issued last May 20.

Brasington notified the fed-

eral court yesterday about their appeal to the Ninth Circuit.

In that landmark decision, Manglona ruled that qualified

voters who are not of Northern Marianas descent must have the opportunity to vote on the Article 12 initiative and any other initiative to amend Article 12.

Article 12 restricts the acquisition of permanent and long-term interests in real property to persons of North-

ern Marianas descent. Manglona issued a summary judgment that favored John H. Davis Jr. in his lawsuit.

Davis, a registered voter in the CNMI and a non-NMD, sued CEC and its officials in his desire to vote on any initiative to amend Article 12. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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OPEN LONGER HOURS ON WEEKENDS

TCGCC: 120 days to review Mega Stars' application

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission said the company tasked to review Mega Stars Overseas Ltd.'s license application to take over and operate Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino will have 120 days to complete the investigation.

TCGCC executive director Lucia Blanco-Maratita said that Mega Stars submitted the casino license application and required forms last Monday, which was within the five days they were required to do so.

The next step in the casino license application process is for the TCGCC and Gaming Inte-

grated Services to review Mega Stars' application.

Blanco-Maratita said entire review process could take up to four months.

"The way it works is the firm has 120 days to complete the investigation. But the start of the 120 days does not begin until all forms and additional documents needed are submitted. We're not on that stage and the 120 days has not started yet."

TCGCC contracted Gaming Integrated Services specifically to review the Hong Kong-based company's application for a casino license related to its take over of Tinian Dynasty.

Mega Stars chief executive officer Cario Hon confirmed that their company submitted

the additional documents the TCGCC asked for.

He said it's now up to the island of Tinian—the TCGCC, the Tinian Mayor's Office, and the people of Tinian—whether their planned investment in Tinian Dynasty pushes through.

"Everything depends on the people of Tinian or those who work for the TCGCC or the mayor's office. If they want they can make it [application] fast or not, it's their choice...If they think we're good for the island, they shouldn't give investors a long time to wait. We can't control [the situation]; we're not the government."

Hon also expressed his frustrations that TCGCC appears to be making Mega Stars go

through hoops before making official the sale of Tinian Dynasty to the company.

"Since coming here we've followed all the instructions, we followed the law, paid up the money, and did everything. We didn't apply for a license. We just bought the shares of the company. We didn't apply for a [casino] license on Tinian. Everyone's working there as before. The managers are there and the dealers are there. Everything's the same. The only difference is we paid up the money. [But] if they want Michael Kwan to run it, let Michael Kwan run it. They decide."

Kwan is the chairman of Hong Kong Entertainment

Overseas Ltd., the current owner of Tinian Dynasty.

Last May 23, TCGCC returned Mega Stars' application by a 4-0 vote, citing the investor's failure to execute the proper forms necessary as part of the application process.

Mega Stars has already spent more than \$40 million so far to keep the struggling

casino resort afloat. It is also planning to plunk down an additional \$600 million to develop a new resort on Tinian's Kastiyu Plateau.

Mega Stars is also part owner of Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc., one of the two applicants vying for an exclusive license to operate an integrated casino resort on Saipan.

Judge to dismiss suit against 2 military special force members

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Dismissal without prejudice means a plaintiff is allowed to refile a new suit on the same claim in the future.

Ki Pung Kwon, a male Korean, is suing U.S. military special force members Weight Jr. and Lopez for assault, battery, and intentional infliction of emotional distress. Kwon asked the court to hold the two liable to pay him damages, attorney's fees and court costs.

According to Quichocho in the complaint, Kwon and a friend named Tony went to G.I.G. Discotheque on Sept. 22, 2012, at 12:30am. As they were leaving at 2:40am, Weight and Lopez allegedly started taunting and assaulting Kwon.

Citing Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the judge said "if a defendant is not served within 120 days after the complaint is filed, the court—on motion or on its own after notice to the plaintiff—must dismiss the action without prejudice against that defendant or order that service be made within a specific time."

To avoid summary dismissal, Manglona gave Quichocho no later than June 13, 2014, to show cause why the case should not be dismissed without prejudice for failure to effect service.

Quichocho said that when Kwon got into a vehicle, one of the defendants opened the door and punched and hit Kwon.

Weight and Lopez allegedly pulled Kwon out of the vehicle and continued beating and taunting him.

Tony called the police, prompting the defendants to run away from the scene.

An ambulance later brought Kwon to the Commonwealth Health Center where he received several stitches on the head.

Did you know we've had 5 turtles nest on Saipan so far this season?

Three of these females have been fitted with satel-lite tags on their shells. These devices help scientists track the exact locations of turtles during their long ocean voyages. In this way, we can all learn more about our turtle's behavior and their movements. We know their nesting grounds are here, but we hope to discover where they spend their time when they aren't on our beaches laying eggs.



To report sick, injured, or dead turtles, please call our stranding hotline at 287-8537 (CTR-TLES) or DFW Enforcement at 989-6095. CNMI turtles are a shared community resource connecting our people's past with our people's future. Help us to conserve sea turtles so future generations may be able to enjoy them also.

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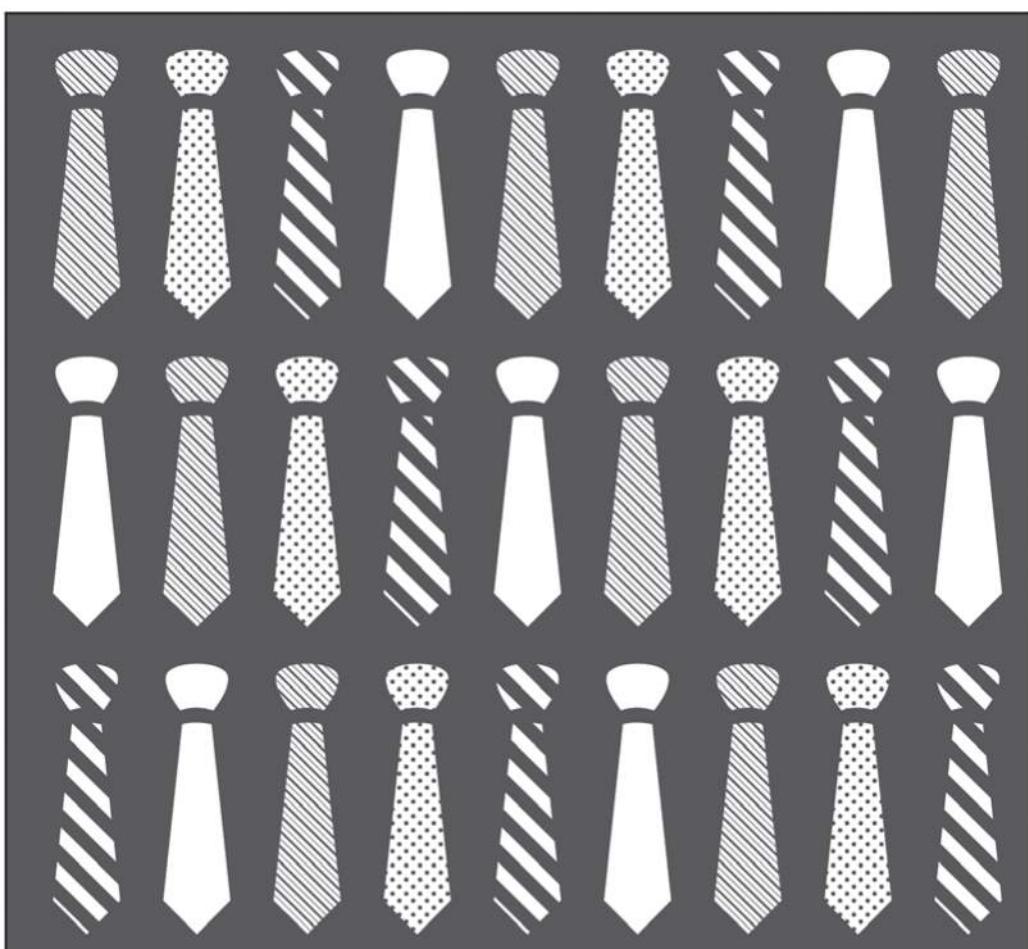
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US Labor chief extends CW program in the CNMI for five years



WASHINGTON — In 2008, Congress passed the Consolidated Natural Resources Act, which applies the immigration laws of the United States to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. To minimize potential adverse economic effects, the CNRA provides for a five-year transitional worker program, known as the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker—or CW-1—program, which ends on Dec. 31, 2014. However, the CNRA authorizes the secretary of labor to extend this transition period for up to five years based on the labor needs of the CNMI to ensure that an adequate number of workers are available for legitimate businesses.

U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez on Tuesday made the determination to extend the CW-1 program until Dec. 31, 2019, based on his consideration of a series of eight factors stipulated by the CNRA.

The CNRA required the secretary of labor, in consultation with the U.S. departments of Homeland Security, Defense, and the Interior, along with the governor of the CNMI, to ascertain the current and anticipated labor needs of the CNMI before determining whether to extend the program. Following Tuesday's determination, the department will continue to monitor and assess the labor needs of the CNMI, in particular any good faith efforts to locate, educate, train or otherwise prepare U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents and unemployed foreign workers already in the CNMI to assume jobs in legitimate businesses.

CNMI employers have a continuing obligation to ensure and protect workers' rights by adhering to and complying with applicable federal civil rights, labor and workplace safety laws.

For more information on the secretary of labor's determination, visit the *Federal Register Notice* of the transition period extension. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services provided extensions of status and grants of new CW-1 status only until Dec. 31, 2014, the previous sunset date of the program. If the petition is otherwise eligible, USCIS will resume approving CW-1 status in increments of up to one year. (USCIS)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 6, 2006

Layoffs possible by July 1

The CNMI government is now looking at a closer deadline for the possible furlough of certain employees within the Executive Branch. Press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said yesterday that layoffs may take place by July 1, a month earlier than the target date initially announced by the administration. "Because of the severity of our financial situation, drastic actions are imminent. Such actions will be taken by July 1, 2006. The fourth quarter allotment will be drastically curtailed and furloughs are in order," Reyes said.

CUC: Water wells drying up due to La Niña

The CNMI is now experiencing a very, very severe dry season because of the effects of the global weather phenomenon called La Niña, Commonwealth Utilities Corp. spokesperson Pamela Mathis warned yesterday. "The water wells are already drying up and not at the levels we get normally. So the plea to conserve water is just as great as a plea to conserve power," said Mathis in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*. Mathis said she received Friday a bulletin about the effects of La Niña from the Pacific El Niño-Southern Oscillation Applications Center. La Niña is characterized by unusually cold ocean temperatures in the eastern equatorial Pacific. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced in February this year the return of La Niña.

June 6, 2007

Pagan pozzolan: Only 12M metric tons of it

Only about 12 million metric tons of pozzolan remain available on Pagan, according to a mining expert working for the Department of Public Lands. This estimate by DPL consultant John W. Wilson is much lower than previous estimates regarding the quantity of pozzolan on Pagan, which ranged between 32 million and 200 million metric tons. In a statement, DPL said Wilson's report takes into account the loose nature of the pozzolan deposit, and the erosion that has taken place since the first measurements of volume were reported in the U.S. Geological Survey's 1984 report.

NMI Labor seeks feds' guidance on wage hike

The Department of Labor has sought guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor as to how the new minimum wage law applies to domestic workers, fishermen, farmers, and tipped employees in the CNMI. Labor Secretary Gil M. San Nicolas told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that he raised the issues with U.S. Labor Wage & Hour Division assistant district director Terence J. Trotter in a letter he sent Thursday. Since the passage of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007, San Nicolas said that Labor has been inundated with calls from concerned residents who are wondering how the law affects them.

June 6, 2008

Wage hike cuts into benefits

The recent minimum wage hike in the Commonwealth is forcing many businesses to scale back worker benefits to remain in operation, according to a recent survey of key business leaders. Proponents of the increased wages, set to rise again by 50 cents each year until they meet the federal level, have long said the hike is needed to ensure workers are fairly paid compared to their counterparts on the U.S. mainland. Yet the mandate for higher pay has left some local employers—who are also facing skyrocketing utility costs and decreasing revenues—with little choice but to cut benefits like housing, health care, transportation, meals and other amenities.

Federal officials to descend on NMI

Federal officials are expected to visit in the next few weeks to initial talks on the U.S. government's imminent takeover of the local immigration control. Pete A. Tenorio, the Commonwealth's resident representative to Washington, D.C., reported that various federal agencies have begun preliminary discussions about how the "federalization" of CNMI immigration will be applied. Tenorio said the Northern Marianas can expect a team of officials from the U.S. departments of Homeland Security and Labor to visit next month to meet with the Fitial administration, the Legislature, and the business community regarding the new immigration law. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial also announced that Department of the Interior officials, including recently appointed.

Woodruff: Labor relies on the flawed opinion of former AG

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Labor administrative hearing officer Jerry Cody has relied on a deeply flawed opinion of then-attorney general Edward T. Buckingham in sanctioning employers for, among other things, not filing a "declaration" with Labor's Citizen Job Placement Section, according to attorney Stephen Woodruff.

Woodruff told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Buckingham's decision says that "this is a regulation of labor, not immigration, and that the CNMI can do it."

"That contention is even more bogus than the arguments made by the State of Arizona, but it stands as a CNMI Attorney General's opinion, and Mr. Cody may feel bound by it," Woodruff said.

In 2010, President Obama's administration sued Arizona to block provisions of Arizona's controversial immigration law that then-governor Benigno R. Fitial and then-AG Buckingham supported. The Obama administration asserted that the Arizona immigration law usurps the federal government's "pre-eminent authority" under the U.S. Constitution to regulate immigration.

Woodruff said in his opinion, attorney Steven Pixley is correct in his federal preemption contention.

Pixley, as counsel for Kanoa Resort in a Labor case, asserted that the federal government has enacted extensive regulations regarding the CW-1 immigration designation as well as the

employment of aliens in the Commonwealth. Pixley said the Department of Labor's enforcement of auxiliary laws and regulations cannot withstand preemption scrutiny.

Woodruff noted that someone needs to put the matter before the federal court and get a declaratory judgment and injunction.

In Arizona, Woodruff said the U.S. Supreme Court held key parts of the Arizona law invalid, and there was not even an express preemption provision in any statute.

"Here, Subtitle A of Title VII of the CNRA [Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008] explicitly provides that it and the immigration laws of the United States 'supersede and replace all laws, provisions, or programs of the Commonwealth relating to the admission of aliens and the removal of aliens from the Commonwealth,'" Woodruff said.

The lawyer said that in his opinion, the AG's opinion, which was technically limited to the power of the CNMI government to revoke umbrella permits during the first two years of the transition, was "very clearly and obviously wrong."

The CNRA, Woodruff said, very clearly preempted all CNMI authority relative to immigration, not just laws and regulations but all provisions and programs "relating to" as well.

"The CNMI regulations and enforcement are quite simply a thinly veiled attempt by the CNMI government to refuse to get out of an activity that Congress already kicked them out of, for good cause," he said.

Best Sunshine meets with COTA and PSS

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson.camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Best Sunshine Ltd. has reached out to officials of the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority and the Public School System in an effort to help the island's lack of public transportation and improve training for the local workforce.

The company's chief operating officer, Terence Tay, met with Commonwealth Office of Transport Authority administrator Thomas Camacho and Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan to discuss public transportation and the possibility of providing school buses to PSS.

According to Tay, they met with Camacho to discuss the five programs under COTA and the planned Saipan Fixed-Flex Route System.

"We talked more on the public transportation situation on Saipan and the CNMI in general just so we could understand how we can fit in and provide something that

Woodruff said the types of CNMI government actions Pixley is complaining about provide absolutely no genuine benefit to U.S. workers in the CNMI.

The lawyer said the CNMI does not progress by thumbing its nose at federal law and insisting on attempting to assert power and authority it does not have.

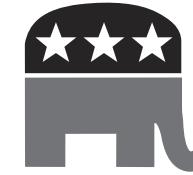
"That just makes the CNMI look arrogant, petty, silly, and small, and breeds contempt for the law and contempt for the political class," he said.

The CNMI, Woodruff said, can progress by developing sound multi-faceted strategies, building alliances, engendering cooperation, and achieving changes in the law, local and federal.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to advise the general public that the CNMI Republican Party Precinct 6 will hold an organizational meeting on Saturday, June 7, 2014 in San Jose Village, Tinian, at the residence of the late Rita Aquiningoc Manglona at 6:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact Senator Francisco M. Borja at 433-0019.



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

A timely boost to European security

NATO turned 65 in April. But far from slipping into semiretirement, the Atlantic alliance found new purpose after Russia annexed Crimea and destabilized portions of southern and eastern Ukraine. While the Crimean crisis is best addressed with economic sanctions, it's important to send Russia—and its allies—a strong signal that military capability will be updated, too.

So President Barack Obama, who is on a four-day trip to Europe, deserves support for his proposal to create a \$1 billion fund to boost European security. Among many elements, the European Reassurance Initiative, as it's called, would increase military exercises, training and rotational presence across Europe but especially in newer NATO countries; deploy U.S. planners to "augment the capability of our allies"; explore repositioning equipment in Europe; increase U.S. Navy participation in NATO deployments, especially in the Black and Baltic seas, and build "the partner capacity" of non-NATO nations such as Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova.

The initiative is timely, not just because of Western worries over illegal and irrational Russian provocation in Ukraine, but also because Obama has tacitly downplayed European security in order to diplomatically and militarily "pivot" to Asia.

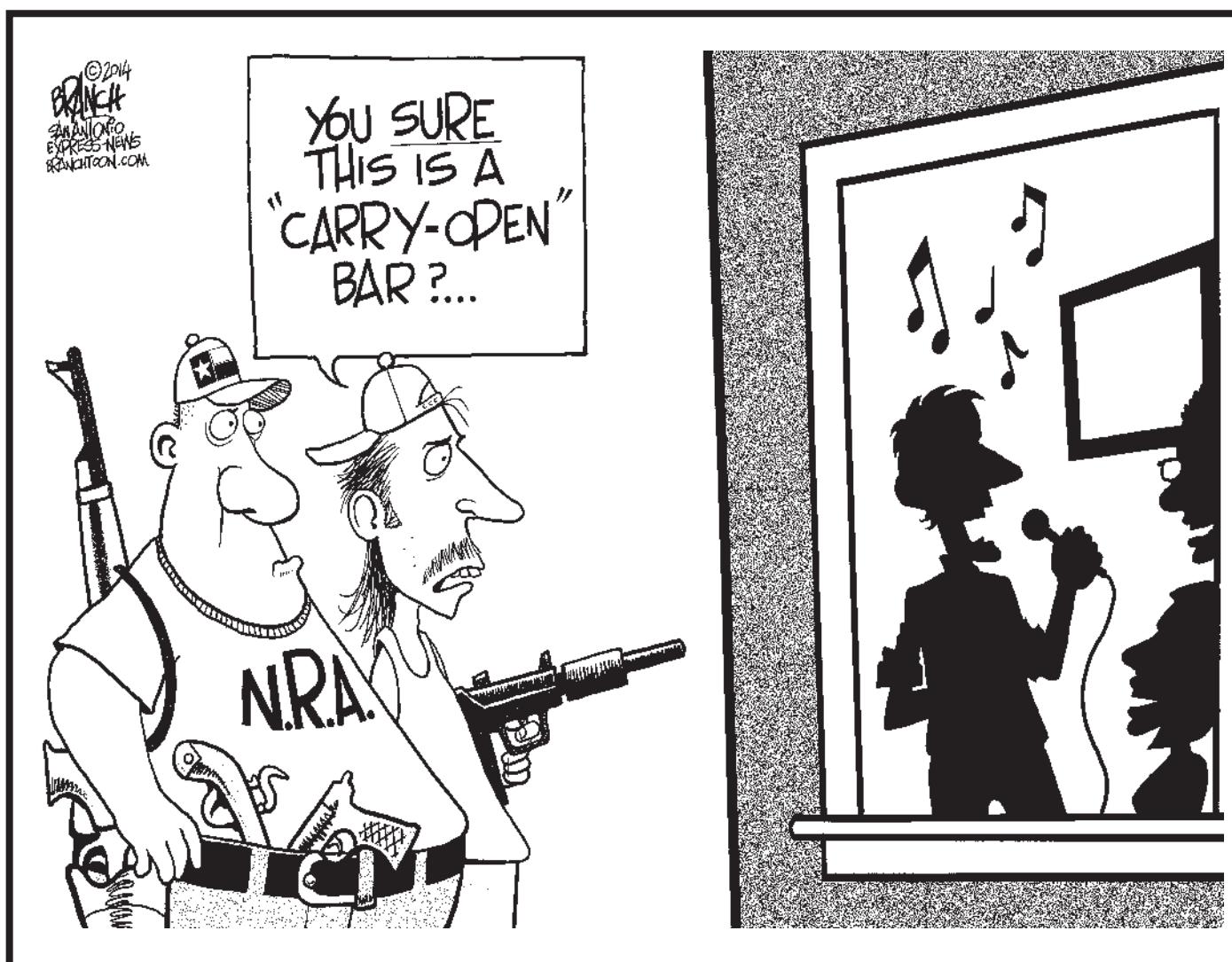
Obama announced the initiative during a visit to Poland to celebrate the 25th anniversary of elections that accelerated the end of Communist rule and, ultimately, of the Soviet Union. Poland has been a stalwart ally since, which is something that Congress should consider when it eventually votes on the European Reassurance Initiative. In this case, politics truly should stop at the water's edge. Central and Eastern Europe, which are more vulnerable to Russian interference, need a strong signal that the United States will live up to its rhetoric on keeping Europe free.

Obama's meeting with Ukraine's president-elect, Petro Poroshenko, should be another reassuring signal that Ukrainians are right to want to align more with Western Europe than with Moscow.

Obama's other stops should shore up the relatively unified European response to Russia, too. In Brussels, he'll meet with G-7 leaders in a session moved from Sochi, Russia (Russian President Vladimir Putin was removed from the guest list, too).

Obama and Putin may meet on Friday in France as Obama and other Western leaders commemorate the 70th anniversary of the D-Day invasion. If so, Obama should use the example of allied sacrifice to reinforce to Putin that despite domestic politics and international rifts, the Western alliance is united in seeking peace through diplomacy, but is capable of strong collective defense, too.

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The smartphone and I

I've been a diehard Apple user since Steve & Steve set up shop at a garage in Cupertino but after a brief fingering of the iPad two years ago, I found it to be of not much use in China at the time. I settled back on the reliable MacBook for my cyberspace requirements, skipping the numerous offerings of the famous iPhone altogether, relying more on the keyboard rather than the more proletarian voice of technological culture!

Now, in public places, I am definitely a dinosaur. Outside my second floor sunroom where I quietly but regularly stick the extra chopstick into the potted plants to aerate the soil and drip the precious water to the roots, the front pedestrian traffic underneath my view is that of people thumbing their smartphones to no end, or folks screaming into their cell.

There are seldom any accidents or anything untoward that happens, save the occasional irate walker rudely reminded to step aside after a blaring vehicular horn even as the drivers of newly minted foreign cars finger their cellphones with one hand and steer their car with the other.

When I listen to people talking on the phone, the gabbing is faster than the hundred-meter hurdles at the recently concluded International Track and Field run in Shanghai. They sound louder than the screams from the bleachers, too. If talk was cheap before, it has gotten cheaper today. I often wonder if the voice from the other end gets equal time to blabber, or the parties have enough time to digest the gist of incoming messages. In the street and on terminals like the subway, the train station and the airport, couples do not even bother to look at each other anymore. They are too preoccupied with their smartphones.

This shortened attention span, or non-clarity on which function of our smart machines is on (smartphones are getting to be a cross of the pad, phone, photo clicker, the pod, and a palm eyeliner checker), must be where U.S. diplomats claim that speaking to Chinese officials on matters like trade negotiations and island disputes is like conducting a well-orchestrated "dialogue of the deaf." We'll leave foreign affairs matters to the Ivy leaguers and Tsinghua illuminati.

We've traversed quite a few time zones this week, first heading for Beijing from Shenyang to catch a flight to Vancouver of British Columbia where HK human and financial capital escaped before Xianggang got turned back by HRM of the clipped accent to Zhongguo, finally making a pit stop in Calgary of Alberta tar sands fame on my way to hot and dry Dallas, Texas, where they are decrying the building of Keystone XL pipeline. The zig-zag routing was meant to cut cost.

Transit time, however, might be fine for teenagers and the adventurous young adult but for those who are frequently restroom-challenged, we can't wait 'til we get to the diaper stage!

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



Zhongguoren Zue and Zu Yi from Shenyang to Beijing attached to their cellphones was par for the course to their cousins in Vancouver, home to one of the largest Chinatowns in the world, equipped with the latest from Samsung, Huawei, Nokia, and LG. Joseph and Josephine in Calgary were not exactly cuddled up in the corner either. They, too, were busy checking relations if everything was bonny well good. In Dallas, no-way-Jose was really out of the way as Josie kept talking with the ferocity of one still holding fort at the Alamo. We design our lives around the cellphone.

I am in Bonham, Texas, a few miles to the Oklahoma-Texas border by the Red River that flows into the Mississippi before it spews out to the delta and the Gulf of Mexico. On my farewell trip to North America, I am meeting for the last time with a covenant group I joined mid-'80s called the Realistic Living Institute. We tend to be big on human consciousness, not in its meta-use but in its common practical face. I will have to write about the group in another article to describe the corporate effort and give it full justice.

Suffice it to say that with a group committed to a week of introspection, meditation, and contemplation, the ubiquitous cellphone has not been silenced. Participants have a hard time shutting off the world for a week, focusing on themselves individually and as a corporate body. It is easier to go to the gym with all the machines and weights clanking the silence away. It takes more effort to flex the spirit in the gymnasium of the soul.

The smartphone is the Linus blanket of this generation, as the Texas male of an earlier time quickly drew his six-shooter, forsaking dialogue. The guys of my upbringing proudly palmed 9mm Beretta for comfort and safety with macho conceit and arrogant satisfaction. In the contrast of generations, I welcome the smartphone.

It's a long month-and-a-half of bidding adieu to loved ones from the shores of Chicago by the lake to the foothills of Oakland by the San Francisco Bay, greeting four grandchildren, two apiece in each place. Were I documenting a trip for the memory lane, the smartphone might be a great tool. But I'm just breezing through so I will let the old eyes and ears, nose and taste buds, with old-fashioned skin contact to register images into the cranium. That will do me just fine!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Sun Tzu meets the Heads Down Tribe

Even on a lousy day, you can always look at Saipan's lagoon and let the colors wash away your cares. It is, you'll agree, one of the world's best sights.

But it's not such a great view if your eyeballs fall apart. Fortunately, the odds of that are pretty slim. But let's tug on that yarn anyway, since it's part of a thread that runs through modern times.

A story recently hit world headlines about a guy who stared at his smartphone for so long that one of his eyeballs did, in fact, fall apart. The eyeball suffered from "retinal detachment."

According to the doctors, our peepers aren't designed to peer at little screens all day, especially in the dark.

Of course, just about anything out there can hurt you if your number comes up. Ladders, swimming pools, and olive pits are a few random examples. So I'm not picking on phones here, be they smart or anything else.

But smartphones can harbor a captivating quality. After all, you don't see many people climbing up and down ladders or sucking on olives all day just for the heck of it, but maybe it depends on the company you keep. By contrast, constant engagement with smartphones is so common it's probably not even noteworthy.

But it used to be. Noteworthy, that is. Last year in this space I took a look at a term that was growing in popularity in Asia: "Heads Down Tribe." That's so named, of course, for the slumped noggins of smartphone viewers. Just from anecdotal evidence, I'll submit that this gig is no mere passing fad, but is, instead, just one data point on an upward trend of downwards heads.

In some cases, the elapsed time from someone being introduced to me to the point at which they pull out a smartphone to show me

CUC in fiscal shambles!

The utility agency is in deep fiscal hole as it now juggles which bills to pay amidst shrinking financial resources. Does it pay federal district court order on the \$64 million fine, \$42 million debt with CDA, buy fuel to keep the Saipan power plant humming or sputtering or pay its staff?

Half the mess is debts owed the utility agency. The balance is the lack of vision and competence on the part of management to rein in the combined use of fossil fuel and alternative energy. Its inability to make necessary repair at the power plant or buy vital parts places the island power system at the brink of likely brownouts for many moons to come. Are these fools planning to burn bunker fuel? Is the system equipped with stacks and scrubbers compliant with EPA regulations?

Some six years ago or so, I recall (as DPL secretary) availing some \$3.5 million in loan via MPLT to CUC. That cushioned the system's repair by a private firm while placing smaller generators to power the island while it worked on major repair work.

Nothing else has happened when power generation returned to normal. We even ignored planning for a more reliable, stable and affordable system for four long years.

Here we are today at the edge of another rain-and-fire dance or bonfire to light up our houses outside until it dies off at midnight. Didn't some private firm offer the answer some four years ago? Notice now how important it is to "Plan For" rather than "Plan By" eventualities?

'Everybody Loves Raymond'

When Buddy Magoo does the reverse visit (comes to my lanai at home), it's usually a warning that he's found something of substance and wants to slug it out in a debate over coffee.

He's ultra-critical of the incumbent administration and I had to deflate his overblown ego by tripping him with threats like the need to do "due diligence." It was my only way to ease the raucous discussion and guide it into sensible decorum. But he wasn't prepared to grant me my day near the lemon tree.

Said he, "Braddah, the inevitable narrative that confirms reality everywhere is that this administration may be a unique political talent but a staggering disaster when it comes down to actually governing."

He doubled up asserting, "The incumbent must have vastly underestimated the complexity of the job." He noted that the governor is known as an accounting wizard, "yet he'd leave behind a legacy of bankruptcy!" A powerful and in your face observation! By this time my protective shields are down and useless.

Also noted that the "shovel-ready boys" (wrecking crew) haven't been of much use, woefully helpless struggling to justify accountability for their heinous disregard of the voice of the people on casino. But they share the governor's impulse for half-cocked investments.

Said Magoo, "Ah, da guys have alienated themselves and in their own bubble. The taint of corruption has started to stink up on their relics such that they've lost depth of perception on most every significant issue." Gee! It's another sterling assertion that leaves no room for refutation.

Sad how we've honed living beyond our means as to incur habitual annual deficits, the cumulative debt piling to a little over \$1.2 billion today. Would leadership step up to the plate? "Everybody Loves Raymond!"

something is about two minutes, if not less. I guess it makes sense: The smartphone is, among other things, a miniature version of a briefcase, so you can have your entire photo album, product catalog, and so on neatly tucked away in your pocket.

It's certainly amazing technology. Maybe someday the old-fashioned briefcase will disappear entirely, joining the top hat and spittoon in the relics realm.

But smartphones might not always be the best answer for every situation. For example, last year I was at a gathering of amateur astronomers. Some folks dropped by the event to see if they could have a look-see through the telescopes. A line formed at my scope to see Jupiter and four of its moons, and Jupiter was showing big, bright, and juicy.

Things were moving along nicely until one guy took a look through the eyepiece and declared, "Whoa! I gotta' see this on the Internet."

Disregarding the line of people waiting behind him, he pulled out a smartphone and started looking up pictures of Jupiter. Apparently, Jupiter did not exist until an electronic screen validated its presence.

The guy stood there, unyielding, in a hypnotic phone-trance, scrolling through pictures of Jupiter.

And he stood. And he scrolled.

And he stood some more. And he scrolled some more.

Somebody in line prodded him with a polite hint.

He didn't catch it.

Cazart! Even mighty Jupiter, the Roman god of all the other gods, is no match for the Heads Down Tribe. As you can expect, then, a queue of mere mortals awaiting their turn at the eyepiece didn't stand a chance.

Shovel-ready bankruptcy

As we stretch political niceties, we dig a wider and deeper fiscal hole convinced it's the "shovel-ready" project of the NMI. Drowning helplessly in bankruptcy since recent past, we're now asking which way is up! Does it matter for the wrecking crew donning arrogance sinking both government and families into the deep sea of bankruptcy?

With families robbed of their buying power right smack in the middle of the cost of living skyrocketing, would they ably spend themselves into wealth? Would not this condition sink them further into the pits of misery when their stagnant income is forcibly reduced by the vicious increase in the cost of most everything from food, health insurance, and power bills, to other obligations?

Oversight on PSS

It's very unsettling to know that 90 percent of students who take NMC's entrance exam flunk the test. It's a tale that new students are woefully weak with words and numbers. As such, NMC carries the burden of failure in the public school system. It must expend money, time, and energy referring ill-prepared high school graduates to take non-degree units or remedial work. The music of seeming inconstancy plays on, including the Legislature's education committees. Disturbing!

We know that education is "not about producing salutary test scores; rather, it is about teaching. Test scores are a component of the process of teaching and learning, but when it becomes an all-consuming pas-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you, Kilili

At a recent House Natural Resources Committee hearing in Washington, D.C., Delegate Kilili offered an important amendment that would protect key conservation provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act that are under attack by new legislation. He offered an important amendment to eliminate loopholes in H.R. 4742

If these casino guys from Hong Kong were legitimate, they would have a business record going back years, a gaming background, or at least some vested interest in the industry. The truth is that until Feb. 24, 2014, their corporation was named First Natural Foods Holding Ltd. and they did no business in the gaming industry at all. This governor and this Legislature and this government is being bought. You retirees are being prostituted by them for their own selfish ends and it's probably our Public School System that is to blame because you retirees can't comprehend what is being done to you and can't do the math needed to see that this won't fix your problem. All you see is getting your 25 percent in July. You are 'dopes' for this government. Nothing more, nothing less.

Ask yourself, what happens after I get back my 25 percent? Has

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



I sure didn't want to take any chances. So rather than risk provoking any weirdness, I just covered up the scope and slinked away for coffee. And, come to think of it, for doughnuts, too. After all, there are few problems that can't be solved by coy retreat and a jelly-filled glazed, so when the going gets tough, you can find me at the intersection of Sun Tzu and Winchell's.

Speaking of retreat, I'll step back to fit this big idea on the conceptual horizon: There's something about the electronic screen that makes it seem more compelling than reality itself.

Perhaps it's in the presentation. After all, reality itself can be a messy and chaotic affair. But on the other hand, by way of clean contrast, a well-arranged screen seems authoritative by dint of being organized and orderly. Or, uh, something like that. I don't really know. Your guess is certainly better than mine. But there's something going on here, that's for sure.

Hopefully, we'll be able to go the remainder of the year without having to ponder this subject again. In the meantime, you can always enjoy the green gem of Managaha island amidst the blue hues of Saipan's lagoon. But after looking at that scene you should consult a smartphone just to, you know, see the real thing.

By JOHN DELROSARIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



sion, the engine carrying a lot of children in its cars is liable to go off the rails." Imagine the humiliation these students would bring to colleges and universities between Guam and across the country.

What does an education official do when it is discovered that students are functioning at low proficiency levels? Rogue elements will consider cheating as a possibility.

Others will lower the standards until low proficiency rates start to look good again—social promotion—that doesn't do justice to students' education. PSS needs to reset its buttons on this score and focus on probing what went wrong in the obvious test scores confirming current education as egregiously flawed.

The focus of education will then have to shift to real teaching, which requires that teachers, and not test scores, are in control of what transpires in classrooms. It is time the CNMI vested its trust in teachers, not through rhetoric but through policy changes that empower teachers. Give teachers full rein and real respect, and the CNMI once more attain instilling academic competence among our students.

that would allow fishery managers to delay rebuilding unhealthy stocks and could keep fish populations at very low levels. Our local people depend on our natural resources for our livelihoods, and this requires healthy fish populations.

Thank you Kilili your leadership and standing up for the local people that depend on you to be our voice in Washington, D.C. The key conservation provisions of the MSA have proven successful and they should remain.

Laurie Peterka

As Teo, Saipan

For some retirees, think about this

the problem been solved? No, it's just another band-aid. The Retirement Fund is still around \$700 million underfunded. Part of your problem is that 10 percent of you retirees get \$6,000 to \$10,000 per month, 90 percent of you only get \$500 or \$600 a month. You are selling Saipan's future to Hong Kong shysters for 30 pieces of silver. If the MGM Grand or The Venetian or Caesar's Palace or The Sands or The Luxor hotel/casinos were talking to the governor and Legislature, then sure, absolutely, for certain, yes, let's go for it. But they aren't here because they know a \$2B hotel/casino investment on Saipan cannot make money. That's the bottom line, folks.

Gary DuBrall

Chalan Piao, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 89° ▾ 77°

▲ 89° ▾ 77°

▲ 89° ▾ 77°

▲ 89° ▾ 77°

▲ 89° ▾ 77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86 ▾ 79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▾ 79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▾ 80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▾ 79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▾ 79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▾ 79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▾ 80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 62 ▾ 58
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 89 ▾ 63
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▾ 80
Honolulu	Windy	▲ 82 ▾ 72
London	Mostly Sunny	▲ 72 ▾ 57
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 78 ▾ 61
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲ 88 ▾ 80
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 58 ▾ 48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▾ 76
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 79 ▾ 61
Osaka	Showers	▲ 80 ▾ 67
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 80 ▾ 60
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲ 71 ▾ 63
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 84 ▾ 63
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81 ▾ 49
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲ 72 ▾ 54
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▾ 63
Tokyo	Rain	▲ 71 ▾ 66
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 81 ▾ 62

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:46 AM	6:45 PM	Today	12:29 PM	12:12 AM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM	Saturday	1:17 PM	12:51 AM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM	Sunday	2:07 PM	1:31 AM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM	Monday	2:59 PM	2:12 AM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM	Tuesday	3:54 PM	2:57 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

■ ISLAND SNAPSHOT Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7
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GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
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ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7
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ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
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SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	11:20pm	2, 6 via NRT
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PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT
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SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Open letter to Mr. Gary Dubrall

My dear friend: I cannot help but disagree with you when you said that "I am part of the problem, not part of the solution" (May 23, 2014, *Saipan Tribune* and *Marianas Variety*). You got it all backwards—"You are part of the problem, I am part of the solution." Too often, a new visitor to our island will tell us: "This is good for you," "You cannot do that," "That's not how we do it," etc. I am sure they mean well with good intention. But how in the world would they know what is good for us when they just got here? You fit those characteristics, for you are smart, seems to know all the answers, and insisting "one size shoe fits all" mentality.

Our Carolinian elders would definitely label you as "*mwaal ye esoor scheel faschal*." Sorry, this old dumb "bigot" does not know how to translate "*mwaal ye esoor scheel faschal*" into a foreign (forked) tongue.

If I seem to impose my belief on you, it was never my intention to do so. I sincerely apologize to you and to others that I may have offended, if that indeed is the case.

You do not have to believe me, but I am sometimes invited to share my rich Carolinian cultural heritage with those who are curious and interested to know about us. A majority of these people are not from the island. We usually end up good friends afterwards, and I immensely enjoy sharing my heritage with them! I am inspired by their stories as well. To mention a few: I've shared with elementary school children, junior high school students, college students, in Guam and elsewhere, and as a cast member of the Honolulu Theater for Youth in the production of

LITERARY NOOK

Eternally grateful

Thank you for being compromising and submissive
That kind of civility and perceived harmony are really quite impressive

Thank you for increasing fear through manipulation, deceit, and disrespect
The discord and despair it creates makes for a long list of easy targets

Thank you for having and welcoming so many thieves and liars
They're countless now with some who are leaders and others well-admired

Thank you for being so selfish and easily misled
The level of stress and discomfort continues to be very widespread

Thank you for increasing the mortality and morbidity rate
That upward trend is as inevitable as your fate

Thank you for all those things you do
That keep the legions growing and in keeping their strength renewed

—Guess who I represent

a play, *Song for Navigator*, a play that celebrates the people of Micronesia. *Song for Navigator* was so well received that it was accepted into the prestigious Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. Also, the entire cast was invited by the Australian government, all expenses paid, to perform in Adelaide the following year, where the play eventually ended. I helped and encouraged my brother Pius "Mau" Piailug to share our sacred knowledge of the Carolinian celestial navigation with our native Hawaiian friends, to the people of Polynesia, and to the world, for that matter. The University of Hawaii board of regents bestowed an honorary doctoral degree on Mau for all that he did and contributed to the humanities. I only helped in a small way, for I was there and wrote his acceptance speech.

I usually keep things to myself, but I sincerely hope the above will help to show that I am not imposing my beliefs on anyone. Rather, this is a struggle to keep my simple life simple and my identity as a human being in a high-tech, modern time.

Do we need to forget our ancestral history, be it American or world history? I need that history in written or oral form to guide me and make me a good person in 2014 and beyond. You compare

us with the KKK. These are white supremacist KKK. I'm brown KKK. We are very different in spirit and belief, and we do not hang black people simply because they are black. You are not going to see a Carolinian showing off his "personal" excellence, like you do, in the newspaper either. You really do not know us, and you will continue to confuse yourself by comparing us with others.

You ask me if I "try to heal the divisions in this [our] community?" As I have already mentioned, I also participated in public forum, with public education, as a guest speaker on traditional healing, at village meetings, etc. and will continue with that struggle to bring healing, good spirit, peace, and harmony to our island community and elsewhere. It's an old, old, Carolinian teaching and belief! But then you don't have to believe me.

Since we've never met, I am personally inviting you and sincerely hope you join me at our house in Chalan Kanoa behind the former Pacific Gardenia to share some of our stories in hopes of bringing peace, harmony, and understanding.

Lino M. Olopai
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

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SAIPAN LOCATIONS: Gualo Rai, Chalan Piao, Paseo de Marianas, Garapan

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COMMONWEALTH LOTTERY COMMISSION

PUBLIC NOTICE

A meeting of the Commonwealth Lottery Commission will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday June 12, 2014 in the Governor's Conference Room 1st Floor Juan Sablan Memorial Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. The following is the proposed agenda

- I. Meeting Called to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Report on Deposit of Funds
- V. Report on Applicants
- VI. Executive Session
- VII. Return to Public Session
- VIII. Report on Grading Criteria
- IX. Adjournment

For further information, please contact the Lottery Commission at 664-2375.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wolf bearing gifts

Eulogio Inos is again playing "wolf bearing gifts" politics to get votes from retirees by assuring retirees they will get back their 25 percent. Let's not be fooled by his politricks "that the checks for the restoration of the retirees' 25-percent cut are already being prepared." With two pending lawsuits filed by two taxpayers challenging the legality of the Saipan casino law, how can he be preparing the checks? Let alone promising government employees that he will restore the within-grade increase. These promises are very irritating to our ears because we know that they are just promises meant to broken after the

election!

Anyone can immediately figure out that the \$15 million per year casino mess can't permanently restore retirees' 25-percent cut because there are other CNMI problems that need to be fixed. This amount is just a drop in the bucket because it is a sweetheart deal. At the same time, Eulogio Inos is also trying to fool the casino applicants that one of them will get a totally exclusive casino license.

The numbers just don't add up. For \$15 million per year in license fees, Eulogio Inos wants the people of the CNMI to believe that it will solve the Retirement Fund problems

that Eulogio Inos, as governor, created when he agreed to cut the retirees pension by 25 percent. The \$15 million is not enough to even pay the Betty Johnson guaranteed commitment of up to \$45 million per year!

The Tinian and Rota senators who voted yes to the Saipan casino were tricked. They were enticed and duped into believing that they each have \$2 million to appropriate. A closer look at the casino law, however, clearly shows that the \$2 million will all go to the Tinian and Rota retirees' pension and the 25-percent cut, although it is not clear whether the 25-percent cut will be restored retroactively. That means no slush fund for the Tinian and Rota Legislative Delegations.

The Saipan and Northern

Islands Legislative Delegation, however, will get \$1 million slush fund. Smart? Not! Recently, I visited a family member who was admitted to the hospital. I was so disgusted that the air conditioner in the patient rooms are not working, the televisions look so antique, there is no cafeteria, nurses and staff are underpaid, not enough doctors, etc. Despite all these problems, those who voted yes to secret deals with casinos have the audacity to reserve for their wasteful appropriation \$1 million slush fund?

Not only are they trying to fool us, but Eulogio Inos and his casino legislators are also trying to fool the two casino applicants. Section 106(a) of Public Law 18-43 says that "An applicant for a license under this Act shall pay a one-time nonrefundable application fee of one

million dollars."

Furthermore, Section 106(e) of Public Law 18-43 says that "The applicant who is granted an exclusive license under this Act shall make an initial investment of at least two billion dollars, to include a casino and a resort with a minimum of 2,000 guest rooms."

First, the "exclusive casino license" is only exclusive under Public Law 18-43. But, nothing prohibits future legislatures from giving other casino licenses under another Act. Second, the \$2 billion initial investment does not require that it be made in the CNMI. Third, the 2,000 guest-room requirement does not specify what the minimum size of the rooms must be. Fourth, neither Public Law 18-38 or Public

Law 18-43 specify when the \$2 billion initial investment must be made by, and when the 2,000 guest-room must be built by.

In my previous letter to the editor, I challenged the yes-to-casino legislators to sign affidavits to show that he or she did not receive anything over \$50 in exchange for a yes vote. As of this writing, none of the yes-to-casino legislators have taken the challenge. I renew that challenge again.

At the end of the day, my prediction is that the exclusive casino license "under this Act" will be given to Best Sunshine, as planned. Just you wait and see.

Jesus I. Taisague
Koblerville, Saipan

Summer ukulele classes at JKPL

Summer Ukulele Classes for Beginner and Intermediate at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is now open for registration. The Beginners class will be taught every Wednesday for eight sessions from July 2 to Aug. 20, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Intermediate Ukulele Class will be every Thursday also for eight sessions, from July 3 to Aug. 21, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

Beginner class is open to anyone who is interested on learning how to play the ukulele. Intermediate Ukulele Class is for those students who passed the previous Beginner ukulele class.

Minimum age requirement: 8 years or older; adults are welcome. Tuition is \$50. Prepayment required.

The classes will be held at

the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Children of our Homeland Library in Susupe

Deadline to register is June 28, 2014.

There will be a minimum enrollment of 15 students and maximum enrollment of 40 students.

Students must provide their own ukuleles and a folder to hold music sheets (Plastic sheet protectors and a 3-ring binder are recommended).

Parents and guardians must sign a Liability Waiver Form on behalf of their participating minor children and must adhere to public library policies and procedures.

For more information, visit your Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe or call 235-7316 or 235-7322-23, or fax 235-7550. (JKPL)

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** Honda Accord LX retail price \$26,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$427.61 or \$197.36 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$25,656.60.

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Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CHO, SEONG JEO,
Plaintiff,
vs.
PARK JAE HYUN, HAN SANG EOK,
KIVON CHOON SEOB, MOON YOO SUK,
AN JONG HO, PHILIP S. BERG
COMPANY, LTD, and DAE DONG CORPORATION,
Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 13-0161C

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 22, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right and interests of Defendants in and to the following real property, located in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:



Tract No. H 246 situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, beginning at a corner which is designated as Corner No. 1, having plane rectangular coordinates of North 45,325.50 meters and East 51,207.79 meters of the Northern Mariana Islands Coordinate System of 1996.

1. **Date, Time and Place of Sale.** The sale is open to the general public (including the Defendants), and will be held on **Tuesday, June 24, 2014**, at the hour of **10:30 a.m.** at the entrance to the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger, D'Torres Bldg, Middle Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI. Registration for the auction sale will begin at 10:15 a.m.

2. **Change of Terms and Conditions.** The undersigned reserves the right to change the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, before the auction date and time or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, will be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 8th day of May, 2014.

/s/ Tim Goodwin
TIM W. GOODWIN, Auctioneer
Tel: (670) 234-3351
Fax: (670) 234-3230
E-mail: tgoodwin@saipan.com

Joint Region Marianas remembers Battle of Midway

ASAN, Guam—Joint Region Marianas sailors and staff commemorated the 72nd anniversary of the Battle of Midway at the command headquarters in Asan on June 3.

The event, hosted by JRM's junior officers, included a presentation that detailed the importance of intelligence, leadership, and timing that led to victory.

The battle, which took place June 4-7, 1942, has been referred to as the most important campaign during World War II. With victory at Midway, the allies gained an offensive advantage against Japan that helped pave the way for the United States to win the war in the Pacific.

"It's important to remember

Midway because if we had lost this battle, American life as we know it would be completely different," said Lt. Loumarie Chew, the command current operations officer. "The outcome of World War II and the occupation of Guam might have been different. They always say 'the battles win the war,' and this is a good exam-

ple of that."

JRM Chief Operations Specialist Damiean Williams attended the event and said it served as an outstanding opportunity to learn more about the history of the significant campaign.

"The only way you can know where you're going is to know where you came from," he said.

"Being in the military, it's important to know our background. Battles like Midway, World War II, great naval battles, that's all a part of our history."

Command Program Analyst Sarah Schumacher said the event was a good way to remind staff of their shared mission.

"JRM is an administrative organization and sometimes em-

ployees may forget the valuable role they play in the defense of our nation," she said. "The Battle of Midway commemoration reinforced that we all support, 'one team, one fight.' Personally, I took away lessons about leadership, teamwork and rising from a fall – just some remarkable foundations that make me proud to be an American." (PR)



Cmdr. Bryce Gibb of Joint Region Marianas gives a presentation during a commemoration event for the 72nd anniversary of the Battle of Midway at the command headquarters in Asan on June 4.



Joint Region Marianas sailors and staff attend a commemoration event for the 72nd anniversary of the Battle of Midway at the command headquarters in Asan on June 4.



The Mellivora Group Presents

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Ed. (DSM 5) Workshop

Cost: \$200.00 covers attendance fee (beverages included in the two day attendance fee). Registrations after June 15th will cost \$225.00.

14 Continuing Education Units are available for this training.

Dates & Times:

7 July 2014; 9:00 am - 5 pm (Registration begins at 8 am the first day)

8 July 2014; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Workshop Venue:

Pacific Island Club's "Charley's," The Island of Saipan

Seating limited to 100 people. Please register early.

Send registration forms to jfosterttraining@hotmail.com (Subject Block Title "DSM V Registration") or call (671) 777-0292 for over the phone registration. Payments can be made with cash, check (make checks payable to J. Foster's Training Solutions) at the Bank of Guam or approved purchase orders (send P.O. to me). Please call Ms. Tiara Evangelista at 670-323-6560/1 if you need further clarification.

This is a J. Foster's Training Solutions Presentation

International Buffet



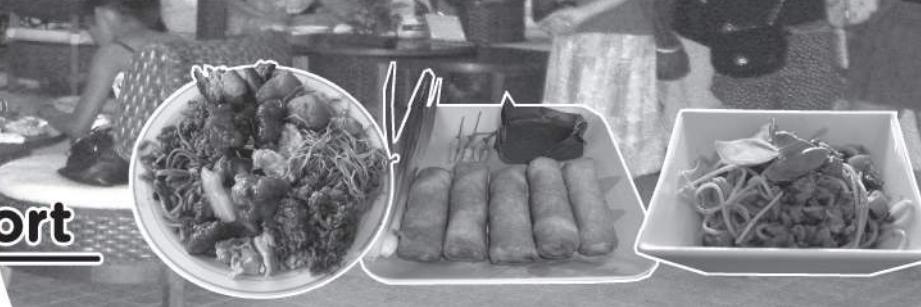
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Vietnam Home Gallery will help you liven up your home or garden

If you are looking for a special gift for someone, or just wanting something exotic to liven up your home or garden, venture over to the new Vietnam Home Gallery and have a look. The Gallery's grand opening takes place Monday, June 9, starting at 9am.

Conveniently located on Middle Road in Gualo Rai, Vietnam Home Gallery is just North of Quartermaster Road and south of the Transamerica building, on the first floor of the Brother's Acupuncture clinic.



Saipan's newest store for your home and garden needs carries fine ceramics, live potted plants, vases, carvings, and other beautiful home furnishings imported from Southeast Asia. This shipment, store manager Loc Thi Vu said features a wide array of carefully selected beautifully glazed pots, bowls, and vases from throughout Vietnam. All are reasonably priced and large items can be delivered to your door. Special orders are not a problem, so long as patrons provide a picture or description of what they want

and their price range.

"My friends and I love growing and caring for plants, but most shops carry plastic pots," said Vu. "Plants do much better in clay or ceramic, especially orchids. They deserve to be planted in something as beautiful as they are."

Vietnam Home Gallery welcomes you to stop by for a quick look, or take your time to plan out your next home renovation. We are here to help with creative ideas. Business hours are Tuesday through Thursday evenings, 5pm to 8pm, and open all day over the weekend from Friday through Monday, from 9am to 8pm. (PR)



Vietnam Home Gallery store manager Loc Thi Vu.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Vietnam
HOME GALLERY

*Quality ceramics
and home furnishings from
southeast Asia.*

TUE - THUR 5 PM TO 8 PM · FRI - MON 9 AM TO 8 PM



Taiwan's Star TV explores Saipan, Tinian

An estimated 10 million viewers in Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, and Singapore recently had the opportunity to learn about the Northern Mariana Islands as Taiwan's Star TV *Cooking My Way* features Saipan and Tinian.

Cooking My Way was on Saipan to capture the 16th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden, which concluded on Saturday, May 31. The show focuses on gourmet food and travel.

"Thanks to last year's Public Law 18-1 and it's increase in the hotel occupancy tax, the Marianas Visitors Authority has been able to use that additional funding to open and operate a representative office in Taiwan and attract more media FAM tours such as 'Cooking My Way,'"



Media representatives of Taiwan Star TV's "Cooking My Way" mingle with dinner show performers at the Fiesta Resort & Spa on May 14, 2014.

said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "We will continue to make our presence known in Taiwan and increase awareness of our islands as a vacation destination."

On Saipan, the group filmed at the 16th Annual Taste of the Marianas, Tony Roma's, 360 Revolving Restaurant, Coffee Room N106, and the Fiesta Resort & Spa dinner show. Other activities included a submarine tour, marine sports at Managaha, shopping, poolside barbecue, a discovery flight, golf at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, and snorkeling at Grotto. The Saipan-based episode aired on May 31, 2014, and had a large viewing audience.

On Tinian, the group toured the Tinian Blow Hole and House of Taga. Also on

the itinerary was hot pepper processing, crab kelaguen, poolside massage, Chamorro dance, fishing, snorkeling, beach barbecue, bugging riding, horseback riding, and sashimi processing. There will be a separate episode that focuses only on Tinian that will air this Saturday, June 7.

The group lodged at Hyatt Regency Saipan, Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, and Mango Resort from May 10 to 15, 2014.

Star TV Cooking My Way has already put up a number of video clips on YouTube. One can be accessed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ivx5pSqR2Zk>. Others can be accessed from the suggested videos list on the same page. (MVA)



COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) and the Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board (CPTAB), Office of the Governor, has completed its goal setting and methodology report for its three-year **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)** overall goal applicable to Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2015-2017 contracting opportunities funded in whole or in part by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority has prepared this goal setting and methodology report for submission to FTA, in compliance with the procedures outlined in 49 CFR Part 26, as amended, requiring DOT grantees to establish a DBE overall goal as a percentage of all FTA funds expected to be expended in the three forthcoming federal fiscal years.

Copies of the DBE Triennial Goal Methodology for 2015-2017 detailing COTA's proposal goal and rationale for attaining such goal will be made available for public inspection either at the COTA (during normal business hours of operation) or through electronic methods.

This notice will be made available for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of first publication.

The period for public comment will be opened for no more than forty-five (45) days from the date of first publication. Please submit your comments in writing to:

Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority
ATTN: DBE Liaison Officer
Caller Box 10007
2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Bldg., Capitol Hill
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Saipan, MP 96950

Email: cota@gov.mp * Fax: (670) 664-2692

To obtain a hard or electronic copy, please visit our office in Capitol Hill, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Bldg., Capitol Hill, Saipan or by calling 664-2682.

To download an electronic copy of the DBE Triennial Goal Methodology for 2015-2017, please visit: www.cota.gov.mp or www.gov.mp.

For more information or questions, please call Mr. Christopher R. Sablan, DBE Liaison Officer at 664-2682 (COTA) or email at christopher.sablan@gov.mp.



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- Saipan Community School is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International.
- Saipan Community School offers a U.S. curriculum taught in English and has been consistently recognized over the years for developing academic excellence and character in a family friendly atmosphere.
- Saipan Community School has one class per grade level from Kindergarten through Eighth grade. Enrollment is limited to 24 students per class, except for Kindergarten, which is limited to 18.
- Kindergarten through 5th grade is considered the Elementary School, and each grade has one self-contained classroom. The Junior High School is from the 6th through 8th grades, and is taught by a team of six teachers.
- Saipan Community School calendar year consists of 180 days and follows the official Public School System calendar as much as possible.
- The Elementary school day begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 2:10 p.m. The Junior High school day begins at 7:15 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m.


**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

Office of the Secretary

Caller Box 10007, Saipan, M.P. 96950 • Tel. 664-2576 • Fax. 664-2570

**CHILD CARE and DEVELOPMENT FUND (CCDF) PROGRAM
OPENS FOR NEW APPLICANTS**

To: All parents and/or Legal Guardians:

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Child Care Program will be doing pre-eligibility assessments for new applicants. The program will open to a maximum of 100 children or slots only (CNMI wide). **Parents attending school, training or working will be accommodated.** Once all slots are taken, pre-eligibility assessments will cease and applications will no longer be provided.

Pre-eligibility assessments will be done at the following locations, date, and time.

Location	Date	Time	Submission Dates and Time	Final Date to Submit Application
Multi Purpose Hall, Susupe	June 18, 2014	3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.	June 24 to July 11, 2014	July 11, 2014; 3:00p.m.
Rota and Tinian	TBD Call CCDF Office for more information			

Parents and/or legal guardians who are interested in applying for the program must go through the pre-eligibility process and will need to bring the following:

- For Full Time Students or in Training with Zero Income:
 - School Documents such as acceptance letter and/or class schedule
 - Must be enrolled full time (12 credits)
 - If attending ABE must provide letter from ABE Office indicating that the student is considered full time
 - In Training: must have documents indicating a minimum of 60 training hours bi-weekly
- For Full Time students with income:
 - All requirements under letter A plus
 - Three (3) latest check stubs showing: Applicant's full name, hours worked (a minimum 60 hours bi-weekly), hourly rate, and gross monthly earnings for both parents
 - Most recent 1040 Tax for the year 2013 for both parents
- For working parents:
 - Three (3) latest check stubs showing: Applicant's full name, hours worked (a minimum 60 hours bi-weekly), hourly rate, and gross monthly earnings for both parents
 - Most recent 1040 Tax for the year 2013 for both parents

Interested applicants must bring the above documents to be entertained for pre-eligibility.

Completed applications along with the required documents should be forwarded to the Child Care Program Office Building No. 1347 Ascension Court Capitol Hill. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

For questions regarding the Child Care Program please call at 664-2575/664-2589/664-2576.

Full Requirements:

Applicant of Household

- Three (3) latest check stubs each parent or legal guardian (if legal guardian, must provide copy of Court Documents)
 - Applicant's Full Name
 - Hours worked (minimum of 60 hours bi-weekly)
 - Hourly Rate
 - Gross Monthly Earnings
- A copy of Identification Card for each parent or guardian
 - Passport
 - CNMI Driver's License
 - Mayor's ID
 - CW 1, Employment Authorization Document (EAD), Notice of Completed Biometrics (if applicable)
- A copy of your most recent 1040 Tax for the year 2013 (each parent or guardian)
- Residency: Provide one of the following:
 - House Rental/ Mortgage
 - Utility Receipt
 - Telephone Receipt
 - CW 1, EAD, Notice of Completed Biometrics (if applicable)
- Employment verification (CCDF prescribed form)
- Training/Education Verification
 - Letter of Acceptance from Institution
 - Full time student
 - Twelve (12) Credit Units
 - Letter from ABE indicating full time status
- Notarized Affidavit indicating (CCDF Form)
 - Parent is single
 - Child Support Statement
- Status: CW1, EAD, Notice of Completed Biometrics documentation (if applicable)

Child/Children Household member:

- A copy of Birth Certificate for each child (Child must be a US citizen or a qualified alien, as defined in Personal Responsibility Work Opportunity Act (PRWORA)
- A copy of US Passport
- A copy of Social Security Card

CNMI Child Care Program Income Eligibility

Family Size	Income Level
1	\$958.00
2	\$1293.00
3	\$1628.00
4	\$1963.00
5	\$2298.00
6	\$2633.00
7	\$2968.00
8	\$3303.00

For families with more than 8 persons, add \$335.00 to each additional family member

Approved for distribution: /s/ Laura T. Ogumoro
DCCA Secretary

Date: May 19, 2014

Funding from the Office of Child Care, US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

Pistang Pinoy kicks off next week

»Flag-raising this Sunday

Panlasang Food Contest at 2pm.

There will be contests, games, non-stop entertainment, and raffle drawings from 2pm to 6pm.

Contests include Best Nipa Hut (using popsicle sticks), fa-

ther-and-child singing contest, a drawing contest for children based on the theme.

Games include sack race, tug of war, jumping house for kids, and many more.

The event will be capped by the Pinoy Super Mom beauty pageant at 6pm, featuring 18 candidates.

In related news, there will be a CNMI-Philippine Friendship Month proclamation signing, followed by a flag-raising at Kanoa Resort in Susupe on June 8 to mark the 116th Philippine Independence Day. The program will be from 7am to 10am.

Philippine Consul General Bayani Mangibin from Guam, together with NMI officials and dignitaries will grace the event.

It is open to the public and those who wish to attend the flag-raising with breakfast will need to pay \$10 per head and come in "Filipiniana" attire or formal wear.

To confirm attendance, contact UFO secretary Mario Ma-yuga at (670) 285-1021.

After the program there will be a dialogue and consultation with Mangibin.

Major sponsors of Pistang Pinoy include Docomo Pacific, in cooperation with LBC Mabuhay, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Coca-Cola, Marpac, Dollar Days and KWAW 100.3 FM.

For the Nipa Hut contest call or text Shelfa Gaviola at (670) 989-8435, or Ana De Guzman at (670) 989-2498. For the father-and-child singing contest call or text Olive Yana at (670) 989-9823. For vendors inquiries call or text Lyn Dela Cruz at (670) 789-8386. (Jayson Camacho)

Plaintiff's Address: Connie M. Taisacan
P.O. Box 511573
Rota, MP 96951

Telephone Number: (670) 532-1212

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

Connie M. Taisacan : SMALL CLAIMS NO.: 14-0092
Richard E. Taisacan :
Servando A. Jimenez :
Romeo G. Hermoso : SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT
Plaintiff(s), vs. :
Rita Camacho Sablan :
Defendant, :
Res. Address: P.O. Box 504032 :
Saipan MP 96950 :
By: ALVERICK PALACIOS)
ALVAREZ)
Petitioner)

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: The above seeks judgment in this Court against you. The court will hold a hearing in this matter at the Courthouse in Saipan on June 19, 2014 at 1:30p.m. at which time you will have to appear personally or by a counsel to present any defense you may have.

Should you fail to answer in accordance to this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you. If you dispute or disagree with the Plaintiff's claim, you may bring with you all documents and witnesses needed to establish your case of the hearing.

Dated this March 28, 2014.

/s/
Clerk of Court

Alverick P. Alvarez
P.O. Box 503833, Saipan MP 96950
(670) 989-9989 or (670) 233-3800

PRO SE
**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

In The Matter Of) FCD-CN
The Petitioner For The) ACTION
Change Of Name Of:) NO. 14-0210
AAH / May 24, 2005)
Initials of Minor)
Child / DOB)
By: ALVERICK PALACIOS)
ALVAREZ)
Petitioner)

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on July 3, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 23rd day of May, 2014.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court


**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**
**INVITATION TO BID ITB14-GOV-110
Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project**

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofsneider, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) office, are soliciting sealed bids for the Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at the Governor's CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building on Capitol Hill. A non-refundable payment of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (US \$250.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the CIP Office on Capitol Hill. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at the CIP Office followed by a one-time site visit to the Puerto Rico Dump Site Thursday, June 19, 2014. Interested companies who do not attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting will be disqualified from the bidding process. Participants are required to meet promptly at the CIP Office in Capitol Hill, 9:00AM ChST, Thursday, June 19, 2014. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST, Thursday, June 26, 2014 to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia of the Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB14-GOV-110". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, Tuesday, July 15, 2014. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00AM, Tuesday, July 15, 2014 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than Tuesday, July 15, 2014 and must be received no later than Thursday, July 24, 2014. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:00 AM ChST, Friday, July 25, 2014. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will open at 10:30 AM ChST, Tuesday, July 15, 2014.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surely companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety.

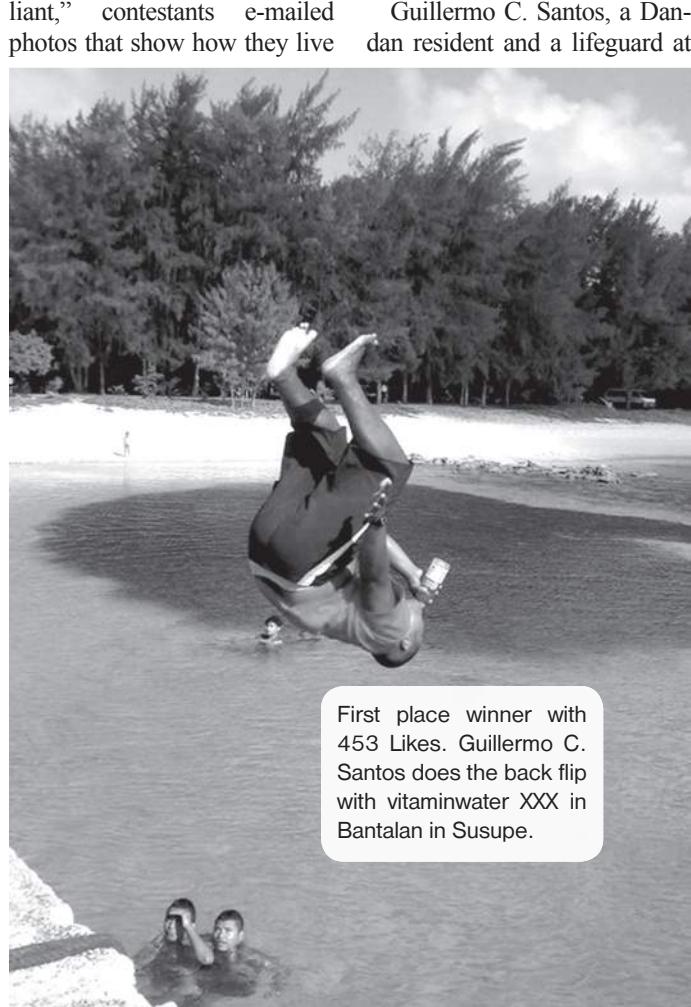
The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is Five Hundred Forty (540) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be the greater of (i) One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by Five Hundred Forty (540) calendar days, the contract time, and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

'How do you vitaminwater?'

Coca-Cola's "How do you vitaminwater?" joint photo contest with Power 99 elicited from the community slices of brilliant lives captured in megapixels and posted on the Power 99 Facebook Page.

Focusing on the theme, "vitaminwater makes boring brilliant," contestants e-mailed photos that show how they live



First place winner with 453 Likes. Guillermo C. Santos does the back flip with vitaminwater XXX in Bantalan in Susupe.



Third prize winner with 339 Likes. Ray L. Babauta shows his boogie board move with a vitaminwater Focus on hand.

vibrant lives with Glaceau vitaminwater. The three entries that garnered the most number of "Likes" by Memorial Day received top-of-the-line multimedia and gaming gadgets from Coca-Cola in an awards ceremony held at the Coca-Cola offices on May 30.

Guillermo C. Santos, a Dandan resident and a lifeguard at

one of the local water parks, submitted a photo of himself doing a back flip in Bantalan with XXX, his favorite vitaminwater flavor. The snapshot earned him 453 Likes and the top prize, an Xbox One entertainment system.

Second place winner, Peachy Quitugua of Tanapag, e-mailed a photo of herself drinking vitaminwater Focus after a mixed martial arts workout. The photo gained 390 Likes, for which Quitugua received a PS4 game console.

Ray L. Babauta of Kobler-ville submitted a photo that showed his boogie boarding abilities. The picture gathered 339 Likes and the third prize, a



Second prize winner with 390 Likes. Peachy Quitugua drinks vitaminwater Focus after a mixed martial arts workout.

Kindle Fire HD tablet.

"We are thankful for the inspiring submissions that show the people in our island community pursuing their passion in life with one of our very popular beverages, vitaminwater. The success of our vitaminwater



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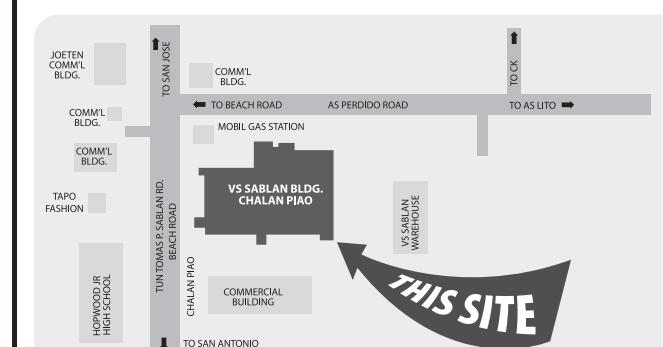
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Contact Tony Muna (Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: plebechamp80@gmail.com) or Ben Sablan (Cell No. 898-7500 Email Address: ben.sablan1994@gmail.com) or Call 234-2585/235-9020.

2nd Annual Spring Musical enraptures Saipan audience

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Saipan's biggest names in the

music industry united under one roof Wednesday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center for the 2nd Annual PSS Spring

Music Festival.

The red curtains on stage were pulled away to present various musical groups rang-



THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Members of the Hip-Hopwood Rock band put on a show for dozens of PSS officials, students, and community members at Wednesday's PSS Spring Music Festival.



THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Garapan Elementary School's Lawrence Tubera sings Journey's *Faithfully* to open the evening's performances on Wednesday of the 2nd Annual PSS Spring Music Festival.

ing from elementary and middle school, to high school students who have gained regional accolades in the past year.

According to Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, the annual celebration is an effort to continually promote the performing arts in public schools.

"We are honored to be surrounded by these talented artists. Their coordinators and mentors are doing a lot with what little they have," she said. "The students have succeeded not just in the CNMI but in Guam and elsewhere in our region."

Garapan Elementary School's Mallard Band, Koblerville Elementary School's Umang Glee Club, and Out Of the Ordinary opened the night's event.

Garapan Elementary School student Lawrence Tubera drew much applause for his cover of Journey's *Faithfully*. "I enjoyed performing tonight. The best

part of it was when I was done and everyone clapped. I am glad I could sing for everyone," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The festival also featured Hopwood Jr. High School's Hip-Hopwood Rock band, which drew loud cheers and applause from the audience.

Saipan Southern High School's Flow and Manta Ray Concert band was an obvious favorite.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan was present at the event to support the youth. "I was here last year and I always enjoy myself. Students are my favorite people. I see the talent and energy and it brings hope for our future," he said.

Mikhail Alcantara, Flow band member, said his group was honored to perform for PSS

officials and members of the community.

"These kinds of activities are important to showcase our future artists and the CNMI's talent. All of the groups are award winning," he said.

Marianas High School also brought to the stage four groups: MHS Concert Band, Glee/Rhythm 'n' Harmony, Prep Band, and the Pocksai Chamorro Chorale.

One audience member, Victoria Nishida, told *Saipan Tribune* that the event "was an awesome experience."

"It is good to see kids busy with things like this. It is really good for them and the community. It also develops their self-confidence and will give them a better future," she added.



THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Members of the group "Flow" play their instruments during the Spring Music Festival Wednesday.



THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan and Rep. Ed Villagomez smile for the *Saipan Tribune* at Wednesday's music festival.



Justina Lee, on the piano, leads the newly formed Marianas High School Concert Band in a song number at Wednesday's event.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



JVA No. 14-004

Opening Date: Monday, March 17, 2014
Closing Date: Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Senior Engineer (REVISED 3/18/14)

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the division manager or his/her designee. Supervises engineering support staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff are trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Performs project management activities to include: preparing reports, memorandums and recommendations; developing scope of work; providing technical reviews; surveying for projects; evaluating proposals; monitoring project process; approving payment; and, recommending award of projects. Prepares engineering designs, plans and specifications; collects data and performs research. Troubleshoots systems and equipment. Reviews work performed by engineering technicians. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.

LOCATION: Power Division, **Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY: \$65,000.00 per annum - \$92,030.00 per annum.

CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

POSITION(S): One (1)

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering and four years of progressively responsible engineering related experience in transmission and distribution. PE license from a U.S. jurisdiction in Electrical Engineering required. Knowledge of: Safe work practices; Applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Project management principles; Mathematical concepts; Construction principles; Engineering principles and practices. Skills in: Monitoring and evaluating staff; Prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Managing multiple projects; Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Interpreting drawings; Preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; Presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; Reading and interpreting scaled drawings; Preparing specifications, plans, and cost estimates; Conducting studies; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must have a CNMI driver's license or one from a U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants may be tested AND subject to pre-employment drug testing.

RELOCATION EXPENSES:

If hired from outside the CNMI, not to exceed \$10,000.00 for relocation to Saipan. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS:

To apply, please submit a resume, cover letter and a list of references by one the following means:

1. United States Postal Service*:
Human Resource Office
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
P. O. Box 501220
Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA

*If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" email "or" drop off your package.

2. Fax: 670-235-5131
3. Drop Off:
Drop off your package to the Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

POLICIES:

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate any discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

Business

Will that be a 6-bedroom suite or just a couch?

By SCOTT MAYEROWITZ and CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP BUSINESS WRITERS

NEW YORK (AP)—Private elevators, personal shopping assistants, six-bedroom suites with their own postal codes. Even helipads. This is what the super-rich have come to expect from hotels.

For others, vacation now means renting someone's apartment, a spare room, maybe just a couch—anything to save on the cost of a hotel.

As the gap between the wealthiest travelers and everyone else has widened, so has the way people are experiencing vacations. The wealthy are looking for ever-more pampering. Many others are seeking new ways to economize.

And the lodging industry is adapting—at the high and low ends—to meet the diverging needs.

Luxury hotels are catering to financial elites from Russia, China, Brazil or the Middle East who now routinely hop around the world and don't mind dropping \$20,000 a night for a glamorous accommodation.

"High-end travel in the air, on the sea and on land has never been more robust," says Steve Carvell, an associate dean at Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration. "There are more people with more concentrated wealth."

Luxury hotels are arising even at iconic middle-American tourism spots such as Walt Disney World. Four Seasons will open a 444-room resort there in August with 68 suites, including a nine-bedroom royal suite



In this May 19, 2014 photo, butler Vido Kijne presents the guest welcoming pose in the Abu Dhabi Suite at the St. Regis in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

sporting a 1,000 square-foot (93-square-meter) private terrace with views of the park's nightly fireworks.

During the Great Recession, many resorts dropped "resort and spa" from their name. The idea was to appeal to corporate organizers who didn't want trips to seem extravagant. Excess now appears back in style.

In November, Four Seasons added the phrase "and residences" to its mountain resorts in Vail, Colorado; Jackson Hole, Wyoming; and Whistler, Canada. It's pursuing families seeking a residential experience with the pampering of a hotel staff.

The six-bedroom suite in Vail fetches \$15,000 a night. You get three living rooms and a movie room. The suite includes a dedi-

cated assistant who can arrange airport transfers, private ski lessons and after-hours shopping.

The return of extravagance reflects one characteristic of

the recovery: After paring their vacations along with everyone else during the recession, the wealthy have rebounded with force. Since 2009, hotel spend-

ing by the wealthiest 20 percent of Americans has risen about 6 percent, according to inflation-adjusted data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The middle 20 percent are still spending nearly 3 percent less.

To stretch their discretionary dollars, middle-income vacationers are fueling one of the industry's growth areas: "limited service" lodgings. At Marriott's Fairfield Inn, Hyatt Place and Holiday Inn Express, you get free Wi-Fi and breakfast. But there's no bellman, concierge or restaurants.

The idea is to draw travelers who feel priced out of full-

service hotels. People can still say, "I'm staying at the Marriott," even if it's the Fairfield Inn, says Bjorn Hanson, dean of New York University's hospitality school.

But many people are seeking deeper savings through increasingly popular sites such as Airbnb that arrange for people to rent rooms or apartments. The number of listed accommodations has soared since Airbnb's founding in 2008 to 550,000—not far below Hilton's 685,000 rooms worldwide. Some studies suggest that Airbnb could be cutting into budget hotels' revenue.



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Judiciary Administrative Office**

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY CLERK I
On the islands of TINIAN an ROTA

DUTIES: This position is under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge and the direct supervision of the Clerk of Court or his/her designee. The employee performs work in accordance with established policies, practices, and court procedures. The following are required duties:

- Receives, reviews, and records documents filed for hearings;
- Provides data entry of pleadings onto the court's case management system;
- Provides daily updates of pleadings and other caseload information for the assigned judge through the court's automated processes, including, but not limited to, the document imaging and online filing system;
- Assesses fines, receives and accounts for monies, issues receipts, prepares deposit slips, and provides disbursements per court order or requests from customer service window;
- Prepares and maintains physical and electronic file folders for court cases, including tracking of all pleadings associated with individual cases files;
- Serves as a courtroom clerk when court hearings are in session, including, but not limited to, swearing in of witnesses, logging of all admitted exhibits, tracking all phases of a hearing on an index sheet for the recording counter, operating the electronic recording equipment, and providing continuous monitoring of the recording equipment to ensure the integrity of the record; and,
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus a minimum of three (3) years related work experience. There is a strong preference for those with work experience in the legal field and those with a Bachelor's Degree. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary will be \$20,485 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Ilimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Michelle V. Guerrero
Human Resource/Administrative Officer
Guma Hustisia/Ilimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Fed survey U.S. Economy improving

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP ECONOMICS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—A Federal Reserve survey shows the U.S. economy strengthening over the past two months in areas from manufacturing and construction to retail sales and bank lending.

Seven of the Fed's 12 regions—Boston, New York, Richmond, Chicago, Minneapolis, Dallas and San Francisco—reported "moderate" growth during the early spring, while the remaining five described growth as "modest," according to the Beige Book survey released Wednesday.

Retail sales were reviving, helped by pent-up demand for new cars after the harsh winter, the survey found. Manufacturing was expanding in all regions, along with lending. One weakness was home sales, held back in large part by a tight supply of available homes.

The Beige Book is based on anecdotal reports from busi-

nesses and will be considered along with other data when Fed policymakers meet June 17-18.

Nothing in the report is likely to alter the widespread view that the Fed thinks the economy is reviving after a winter slowdown.

"The picture painted by the collective anecdotes in today's Beige Book may not illustrate robust growth, but it suggests the economy is at least moving in the right direction," said Dana Saporta, an economist at Credit Suisse.

Jennifer Lee, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets, said it marked the 24th time out of 28 reports going back to early 2011 that the Fed has used "modest," "moderate" or often both words to describe the economy.

Economists generally believe the Fed in June will pare its pace of monthly bond purchases by another \$10 billion and pledge to keep its key short-term interest rate at a record low near zero for a "considerable" period after its bond purchases end.

Learn about the telecommunications industry and get paid!

Never worked at a company before? Here's your chance to gain experience! The IT&E Summer Work Program will give 5 students who may never have held a paying job before, a unique opportunity to gain insight and knowledge about the telecommunications industry. Students learn about the operations of the Company and how they can be a part of it by observation, interaction with employees, and hands-on training.

REQUIREMENTS:

- 16-19 years of age
- Most recent official school transcript with an overall minimum 3.5 GPA submitted in a sealed envelope
- Recommendation, preferably from a prior instructor, advisor, dean, or principal
- Legally authorized to work in the CNMI
- Computer experience using Microsoft Applications

Some positions may also require a valid driver's license.

To apply, students must complete an IT&E application and submit it, along with the other required documents noted above, to the IT&E Human Resource office, located at the IT&E Susupe Headquarters no later than Wednesday, June 11, 2014. All inquiries must be made by the student, not the parent.

The student may call 234-6600.

As an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, we afford equal opportunity to all applicants and employees for hire and promotion without regard to race, color, origin, gender, age, marital status, religion, veteran status, or disability or genetic information. We are also a Drug Free Workplace



IT&E SUMMER WORK PROGRAM

Learn about the telecommunications industry and get paid!

Never worked at a company before? Here's your chance to gain experience! The IT&E Summer Work Program will give 5 students who may never have held a paying job before, a unique opportunity to gain insight and knowledge about the telecommunications industry. Students learn about the operations of the Company and how they can be a part of it by observation, interaction with employees, and hands-on training.

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Nation

Last of original group of Navajo Code Talkers dies

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP)—The language he once was punished for speaking in school became Chester Nez's primary weapon in World War II.

Before hundreds of men from the Navajo Nation became Code Talkers, Nez and 28 others were recruited to develop a code based on the then-unwritten Navajo language. Locked in a room for 13 weeks, they came up with an initial glossary of more than 200 terms using Navajo words for red soil, war chief, braided hair and hummingbird, for example, and an alphabet.

Nez never tired of telling the story to highlight his pride in having served his country and stress the importance of preserving the Navajo language. The 93-year-old died Wednesday morning of kidney failure with plenty of appearances still scheduled, said Judith Avila, who helped Nez publish his memoirs. He was the last of the original group of 29 Navajo Code Talkers.

"It's one of the greatest parts of history that we used our own native language during World War II," Nez told The Associated Press in 2009. "We're very proud of it."

Navajo President Ben Shelly ordered flags lowered across

the reservation in honor of Nez from sunrise Thursday to sunset Sunday.

Nez was in 10th grade when he lied about his age to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps not knowing he would become part of an elite group of Code Talkers. He wondered whether the code would work since the Japanese were skilled code breakers.

Few non-Navajos spoke the Navajo language, and even those who did couldn't decipher the code. It proved impenetrable. The Navajos trained in radio communications were walking copies of it. Each message read aloud by a Code Talker immediately was destroyed.

"The Japanese did everything in their power to break the code but they never did," Nez said in the AP interview.

Nez grew up speaking only Navajo in Two Wells, New Mexico, on the eastern side of the Navajo Nation. He gained English as a second language while attending boarding school, where he had his mouth washed out with soap for speaking Navajo.

When a Marine recruiter came looking for young Navajos who were fluent in Navajo

and English to serve in World War II, Nez said he told his roommate "let's try it out." The dress uniforms caught his attention, too.

"They were so pretty," Nez said.

About 250 Navajos showed up at Fort Defiance, then a U.S. Army base. But only 29 were selected to join the first all-Native American unit of Marines. They were inducted in May

1942 and became the 382nd Platoon tasked with developing the code. At the time, Navajos weren't even allowed to vote.

After World War II, Nez volunteered to serve two more years during the Korean War. He retired in 1974 after a 25-year career as a painter at the Veterans Affairs hospital in Albuquerque. His artwork featuring 12 Navajo holy people was on display at the hospital.

For years, Nez's family and friends knew only that he fought the Japanese during World War II.

Nez was eager to tell his family more about his role as a Code Talker, Avila said, but he couldn't. Their mission wasn't declassified until 1968.

The accolades came much later. The original group re-

ceived Congressional Gold Medals in 2001 and Nez often joked about pawning his. He measured the accuracy of the movie "Windtalkers," based on the Code Talkers that came out the following year, at 78 percent and said the Navajo spoken by Adam Beach was hard to understand but "he tried his best."

Code Talkers have appeared on television and at parades and they are routinely asked to speak to veterans groups and students. They are celebrated on the Navajo Nation with a tribal holiday.

Nez threw the opening pitch at a 2004 Major League Baseball game and offered a blessing for the presidential campaign of John Kerry. In 2012, he received a bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas, where he abandoned his studies in fine arts decades ago after tuition assistance he received for his military service ran out.

U.S. Sens. Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich, and Rep. Ben Ray Lujan, of New Mexico, praised Nez for his bravery and service to the United States in a statement Wednesday. The Code Talkers took part in every assault the Marines conducted in the Pacific, sending thousands of messages without error on Japanese troop movements and battlefield tactics.



ACROSS THE NATION

Military jet crash sets homes ablaze in California

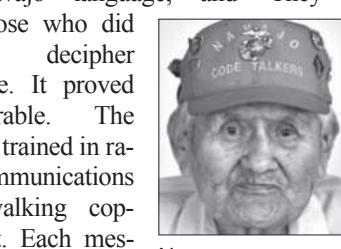
IMPERIAL, Calif. (AP)—A Marine jet crashed into a residential area in a Southern California desert community Wednesday, exploding and setting two homes on fire. The pilot ejected safely, and there was no immediate word of any injuries on the ground. The Harrier AV-8B went down at 4:20 p.m. in Imperial, a city of about 15,000 near the U.S.-Mexico border about 90 miles east of San Diego. Witnesses described an explosion and thick plumes of smoke. "It felt like a bomb was thrown in the backyard of the house," said Adriana Ramos, 45, whose home is less than a block from the crash scene. "The whole house moved."

Bergdahl's hometown cancels celebration amid furor

HAILEY, Idaho (AP)—Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl's hometown abruptly canceled plans Wednesday for a welcome-home celebration, citing security concerns over the prospect of big crowds—both for and against the soldier. The town of 8,000 has been swamped with hate mail and angry calls over Bergdahl, whose release after five years of Taliban captivity in Afghanistan has touched off a debate over whether the 28-year-old should be given a hero's welcome or punished as a deserter. Meanwhile, the Taliban released a 17-minute video of his handover showing a thin, tense-looking Bergdahl being patted down for explosives by U.S. forces before climbing aboard an American helicopter in the dusty Afghanistan desert. Just before he was turned over, one of his Taliban captors leaned in and warned him: "Don't come back to Afghanistan. You won't make it out alive next time." His captors waved goodbye as he was led away.

Police arrest man in elevator stabbing of boy, 6

NEW YORK (AP)—A man believed to have stabbed a 6-year-old boy to death and critically injured a 7-year-old girl in a knife attack in a public housing building elevator that didn't have security cameras was arrested Wednesday just minutes after the mayor and the police commissioner publicly identified him and appealed for help catching him, police said. Daniel St. Hubert was picked up just after 8 p.m. in a residential neighborhood in Queens in connection with the death of Prince Joshua Avitto and the injuring of Mikayla Capers days earlier in Brooklyn, authorities said. No details were provided on how St. Hubert, 27, was captured.



Nez

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

GRAVESITE MARKERS RFP14-GOV-099

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude Hofschneider, are soliciting competitive sealed proposals according to the requirements of N.M.I.A.C. § 70-30.3-210 from qualified vendors to provide gravesite markers for the Marpi Public Cemetery on the Island of Saipan for a two-year period. Proposals are to include costs associated with provision of required markers and installation. The preferred material is a gray and white granite, inscribed following suggested design standards. Contractor will supply all required markers for a two-year period which is estimated to be approximately one hundred Gravesite Markers per year. Submitted proposals will be evaluated on a possible 100 points based on the following factors: proposed design and materials (40 points); cost (40 points); capacity of proposer (20 points). These evaluation factors are summarized in the table below.

COST

Price is also a factor which will be considered and evaluated in comparison with the overall merit of the proposals. Technical merit is more important than price and the government reserves the right to award to other than the lowest proposer. As proposals become more equal in technical merit, the importance of price will increase. The evaluation committee of designated reviewers selected by the Office of the Governor shall review and evaluate proposals.

Discussion with Responsible Proposer (s) and revisions to proposals

Discussions may be conducted with the responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to insure full understanding of, and responsiveness to, solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of proposal and such revisions may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. In conduct discussions, there shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors. The successful proposer will be subject to a responsibility determination in compliance with NMIA Section 70-30.3-245 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

AWARD

Award of contract shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined in writing to be the most advantageous to the government taking into consideration price and evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposal. No other factors or criteria shall be used in the evaluation. Proposals should address each item identified in the evaluation structure and must follow the proposal structure as identified in the proposal packet.

Proposal packets will be available on June 2, 2014 at Office of Capital Improvement - Juan Sablan Memorial Building - Capitol Hill (670-664-2375). All questions regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. on June 17, 2014 (ChST) to the Office of Capital Improvement via fax to (670-664-2408). The selected vendor will be required to comply with all applicable Commonwealth and Federal laws. All proposals must be in a sealed envelope or container and marked "RFP14-GOV-099 Gravesite Markers" on the exterior and include an original and four copies. Proposals must be submitted no later than 10:00AM, June 24, 2014 (ChST) to:

Herman S. Sablan, Director
Marianas Procurement & Supply - Lower Base Drive
P.O. Box 510008 CK, Saipan, MP 96950

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Proposers bear all risk concerning delivery. For further information contact Carl Castro at the Office of Capital Improvement (670) 664-2375. All proposals become the property of the Commonwealth.

Element	Points
Proposed Design and Materials	40 points
Cost	40 points
Capacity of Proposer	20 points
Total	100 points



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

DEQ: P.O. Box 501304, DCRM: P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950-1304

DEQ Tel.: (670) 664-8500/01; Fax: (670) 664-8540

DCRM Tel.: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315

www.deq.gov.mp and www.crm.gov.mp



Bureau of Environmental & Coastal Quality

BFCQ

CNMI

RELOCATION OF DCRM OFFICE

**Effective June 2 - 6, 2014,
the Division of Coastal Resources
Management (DCRM) is moving to
the Bureau of Environmental and
Coastal Quality (BECQ) Office in
Gualo Rai at the same building
where the Division of Environmental
Quality (DEQ) is located.**

**Please contact DCRM at 664-8500
for more information.**

Asia

Mourning, tight security on Tiananmen anniversary

BEIJING (AP)—Yin Min held the ashes of her son and wept, she said, as she marked 25 years since he was killed in the crackdown by Chinese tanks and troops on protests at Tiananmen Square. Outside, guards kept a close eye on her home while police blanketed central Beijing to block any public commemoration of one of the darkest chapters in recent Chinese history.

“How has the world become like this? I don’t even have one bit of power. Why must we be controlled so strictly this year?” Yin said in a telephone interview. “I looked at his ashes, I



looked at his old things, and I cried bitterly.”

China allows no public discussion of the events of June

3-4, 1989, when soldiers backed by tanks and armored personnel carriers fought their way into the heart of Beijing, killing hun-

Indian girl, 13, becomes youngest to climb Everest

NEW DELHI (AP)—The 13-year-old daughter of poor Indian farmers who became the youngest girl to climb Mount Everest said Wednesday that she “shed joyful tears” at the summit after a grueling climb across difficult terrain and personal fear.

Nepal requires climbers to be at least 16 years old to scale its peaks, but Malavath Poorna said she and a team of Nepalese guides climbed the 8,850-meter (29,035-foot) mountain on May 25 from the northern side in Tibet. There are no age restrictions

Everest, very good experience. I feel great and proud, and I shed joyful tears” as she looked around and saw “mighty mountains and morning sunlight,” she said in English, waving her hands expressively as she spoke.

The climb was verified by the China Tibet Mountaineering Association in Lhasa, making Malavath the youngest girl to climb Everest. American Jordan Romero, from Big Bear, California, became the youngest boy at age 13 to reach the summit—also from the Tibetan side—in 2010.

At 3,300 meters (10,830 feet), she said she saw “six dead bodies. I was shocked. Oh my god I got some fear.”

But she remembered her training and regained her confidence.

“When I reached the top of

Tens of thousands of people attend a candlelight vigil at Victoria Park in Hong Kong Wednesday June 4, 2014, to mark the 25th anniversary of the June 4th Chinese military crackdown on the pro-democracy movement in Beijing.

dreds, possibly thousands, of unarmed protesters and onlookers.

On Wednesday, scores of police and paramilitary troops patrolled the vast plaza and surrounding streets in Beijing’s heart, stopping vehicles and demanding identification from passers-by. Chinese censors scrubbed domestic blogs and social media websites of comments marking the crackdown.

The silence in the mainland about the anniversary of a pivotal event that shocked the world contrasted with boisterous commemorations in Hong Kong.

Large crowds gathered Wednesday night in the city’s Victoria Park for an annual candlelight vigil to remember the Tiananmen victims, holding candles aloft that turned the vast area into a sea of flickering light.

Activists laid a wreath at a makeshift memorial as the names and biographical details of people killed in the crackdown were read out. Organizers said more than 180,000 people

took part, with many overflowing into the streets around the park’s main entrance.

Elsewhere, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry urged China to release those jailed in connection with the events. “For all people who seek freedom, Tiananmen Square still stirs our conscience,” he said in a statement.

Some relatives of the crackdown’s victims in Beijing were allowed to pay their respects at cemeteries—but only with police escorts. Others did so at home under surveillance, expressing frustration at the restrictions placed on their remembrances.

Ruling party, rival split S. Korean vote

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean President Park Geun-hye’s conservative ruling party and its liberal rival split key races in local elections that analysts say ended in a tie amid rising public indignation over the government’s handling of April’s deadly ferry sinking.

With nearly all votes counted Thursday morning, candidates affiliated with Park’s Saenuri Party won eight of 17 important mayoral and provincial

governor races, while opposition candidates took the other nine. The local posts are often springboards for future national leaders.

“This time, there is no winner and no loser,” said Prof. Hong Sung Gul from Seoul’s Kookmin University.

In some sense, the ruling party was seen as having fared well as it avoided a big defeat in elections widely seen as a measure of the public’s feel-



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES (MOWING, TRIMMING AND CLEANING OF GROUNDS) PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-011-14

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for grounds maintenance services of the International Airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Proposal Package will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning **May 09, 2014**.

All Proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: “Proposal for Grounds Maintenance Services (mowing, trimming and cleaning of grounds of the Saipan International Airport)-Project NO. CPA-RFP-011-14”. One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, June 06th, 2014, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

Proposer will be required to obtain insurance policies based on CPA’s requirements.

A pre-proposal meeting will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Departure Building at 10:00 a.m., **Wednesday, May 21st, 2014**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions must be in writing and faxed to the Executive Director’s Office at (670)234-5962 or via email at cpa.admin@pticom.com at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibilities in any act of omission on the part of offerer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of offeror’s preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit CPA to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Proposer will be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

All Proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Executive Director

Date: April 30, 2014



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AIRSIDE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES (PERIMETER FENCE/ROADSIDE/DITCH/AND RESTRICTED AREA GRASS CUTTING) PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-012-14

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for grounds maintenance services of the International Airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals for perimeter fence/roadside/ditch and restricted area grass cutting at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing continuous grass cutting services for the Airport as described in the scope of work. The proposal package will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning May 16, 2014. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project. Proposers shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: “Perimeter Fence/Roadside/Ditch and Restricted Area Grass Cutting at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.” One original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, **FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2014**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at the CPA Departure Terminal Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at 10:00 am, Friday, May 30, 2014 to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective proposers may attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director in writing at least 7 days prior to the pre-proposal conference.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of offeror’s preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Executive Director

Date: May 1, 2014

World

BOHEMIA, Jamaica (AP)—Howard Bailey joined the U.S. Navy straight out of high school in Brooklyn figuring he would see the world. He didn't expect to end up back in his native Jamaica, raising pigs and barely getting by in the poor village of his childhood.

The 43-year-old father of two was deported in May 2012 from the U.S. to his Caribbean homeland because he was convicted of a marijuana-related felony drug charge in 1997—despite the four years he served in the Navy, including a few months on a supply ship during the first Gulf War.

Weighed down by worry and bone-deep weariness, he wants to get back to his family and the future he thought he was building in Virginia. Bailey was a teenager when he and his siblings followed their mother to New York City as green card holders, and he long considered the United States his home.

"It's so hard," Bailey said, gesturing at a few rough-hewn pigpens and yam vines climbing up bamboo sticks. "I went from owning a successful trucking business and two homes in the U.S., paying my taxes, raising two beautiful children with a beautiful wife to, well, what you see here."

Bailey's case has drawn the attention of immigration lawyers and media because his crime seems relatively minor

A US veteran, deported and struggling in Jamaica

and the punishment extreme. But he's not unique: Thousands of non-citizens who served in the U.S. military have been deported to countries around the globe in recent years, immigrant advocates estimate. The precise number is unknown because the U.S. government does not track deportees by veteran status.

Some say the deportees deserve special consideration because of their military service. "We treated you as a national when you wore the uniform, we should treat you as one when it comes off," said Pennsylvania immigration attorney Craig Shagin, who assists a group for deportees called Banished Veterans.

If legal permanent residents die while serving in the U.S. military, they are granted a military funeral and citizenship. But if they finish their service without becoming nationalized and are later arrested, as Bailey was, they are subject to immigration laws passed in 1994 and 1996 that expanded the list of deportable offenses.

It's an uphill battle to return a deportee in Bailey's position to the U.S., said Alisa Wellek, who is assisting him as co-executive director of the New York-based Immigrant Defense Project. She said a legal advocacy project at Boston College has agreed to file a motion to reopen Bailey's



In this May 20, 2014 photo, Howard Bailey pauses as he speaks to a journalist as he works on his neighbor's farm in Bohemia, Jamaica.

immigration case so a judge can determine whether he deserves to stay in the U.S. as a green card holder, or legal resident. But the Department of Homeland Security will ultimately decide if the case is reopened.

U.S. government officials would not discuss specifics of Bailey's situation, citing privacy rules. Gillian Christensen, a spokeswoman for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, said the agency "exercises prosecutorial discretion for members of the armed forces who have honorably served our country on a case-by-case basis when appropriate."

consequences of their actions," said Ira Mehlman, spokesman for the Washington-based Federation for American Immigration Reform.

In Jamaica, Bailey mulls over his "stupid mistake" and worries about his teenage children, a boy and girl living in Virginia. Once strong students, they are struggling in school.

Following his honorable discharge, Bailey, a communications specialist while in the Navy, was studying to become a dental assistant and living near Norfolk Naval Station when he was arrested in 1995. He was convicted in August 1997 of possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.

Bailey said he was duped into the crime by a fellow Jamaican who was serving in the Navy at the time. Hanging out near the Norfolk base, they bonded over music and he didn't think twice when his new buddy asked him to sign for a couple of packages

at his home. But the parcels contained marijuana and was being tracked by law enforcement.

Two years later, Bailey followed his lawyer's advice and took a plea deal in Virginia Beach Circuit Court and admitted to a felony possession charge rather than risk a harsher penalty by going to trial. He served 15 months in a Virginia lockup and thought that was the end of it.

But when he applied for U.S. citizenship in 2005, immigration authorities were flagged by the conviction. Bailey was locked up in immigration detention centers for two years until 2012, when he boarded a plane with 70 other shackled Jamaicans and flown to the island's capital on a monthly U.S. flight nicknamed "Con Air."

Bailey shares his story with few people in Jamaica, where stigma against deportees is high and many people struggle to find work. His mother and siblings wire him money because he doesn't make nearly enough to support himself by raising just over a dozen pigs.

Syria's Assad wins presidential vote in landslide

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—Syrian President Bashar Assad has been re-elected in a landslide, officials said Wednesday, capturing another seven-year term in the middle of a bloody 3-year-old uprising against his rule that has devastated the country.

Syria's parliament speaker, Jihad Laham, announced the final results from Tuesday's election, saying Assad garnered 10,319,723 votes, or 88.7 percent. Assad's two challengers,

Hassan al-Nouri and Maher Hajjar, won 4.3 percent and 3.2 percent respectively. The Supreme Constitutional Court put turnout at 73.42 percent.

Assad's victory was always a foregone conclusion, despite the presence of other candidates on the ballot for the first time in decades. The opposition and its Western allies denounced the election as a farce, with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry calling it a "great big zero."

WORLD BRIEFS

Rebels seize 3 government bases in eastern Ukraine

LUHANSK, Ukraine (AP)—Pro-Russian insurgents captured three government bases in eastern Ukraine in a series of humiliating defeats for the beleaguered armed forces on Wednesday, as the president-elect promised new initiatives to help end the mutiny in the country's industrial heartland. Petro Poroshenko, speaking in Warsaw after meeting with President Barack Obama and other Western leaders, rejected a call from Ukraine's interim authorities to introduce martial law in the restive east, saying he would seek to pacify the region with an offer of amnesty and a promise of early regional elections. Poroshenko's overture, expected to be detailed in his inaugural address on Saturday, came as the Ukrainian troops suffered a series of embarrassing setbacks on Wednesday.

3 officers killed, 2 injured in Canada shooting

MONCTON, New Brunswick (AP)—Three police officers were shot dead and two others injured in a rare case of gun violence in the east coast Canadian province of New Brunswick, officials said. Authorities were searching for a suspect. Royal Canadian Mounted Police Constable Damien Theriault said police responded to a call Wednesday about an armed man in the north end of the city of Moncton at 7:30 p.m. Three of the officers were killed and two sustained non-life threatening injuries and were in stable condition. "We are still actively looking for the shooter," Theriault said. "He is believed to still be in the Pinehurst subdivision area of Moncton. We are urging people in that area to stay inside and lock their doors and for people to stay away from that area."

Russia's Putin dominates G-7 summit in absentia

BRUSSELS (AP)—Russian President Vladimir Putin was kept out of Wednesday's summit of world leaders but dominated the meeting as President Barack Obama and his counterparts from the G-7 group of major economies sought the Kremlin chief's renewed cooperation to end the Ukraine crisis. French President Francois Hollande said the meeting sent a clear signal of unity by urging Russia to help stabilize the situation in Ukraine, while keeping the threat of further sanctions on the table. In faraway Moscow, Putin seemed to shrug off the snub of having not been invited to Brussels, but declared he was still open to "dialogue." In March, the U.S. and its most important allies retaliated for Putin's military occupation and subsequent annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula by suspending Russia's membership in what had been the G-8 club of rich countries.

Israel doctors won't force-feed Palestinians

JERUSALEM (AP)—Proposed legislation to permit the force-feeding of Palestinian prisoners on hunger strike is pitting Israel's government against much of the country's medical community, including the main doctors' association which contends the practice amounts to torture. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has reportedly asked to fast-track the bill as a hunger strike by dozens of Palestinian detainees entered its sixth week. At least 65 of 290 participating detainees have been hospitalized since the first group began a hunger strike on April 24. Many are administrative detainees, held for months or years without charges.

In Celebration of her new life †Julita Sasamoto Camacho

Born to life on April 30, 1925
Called to eternal Life on 2014

In her new life, she now joins her:

Husband: †Antonio Acosta Camacho

Parents: †Gregorio Kaijo Sasamoto and

†Henara Aguon Sasamoto

Parents In Law: †Mariano Camacho and

†Valeriana Acosta

*Her memories will forever live in the hearts
of her children and families:*

Pedro A. and Romi T. Sasamoto and Children

Augustina S. and †Antonio T. Toves and Children

Diego A. and Alice S. Sasamoto and Children

Dolores S. Camacho

Josepha S. Camacho and Ignacio M. Taitano and Children

Antonio S. Camacho and Christine P. Aguon and Children

Joseph S. Camacho and Children

Vidal S. and Elizabeth C. Camacho and Children

Rebecca S. Camacho

Simon S. Camacho and Children

Lourdes S. Camacho and Donald DLGuerrero and Children

She will be greatly missed by numerous grandchildren, greatgrandchildren, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Daily Mass of Intentions are being celebrated each morning at 6:00am at Kristo Rai Church and
Holy Rosary is being recited each evening at Kristo Rai Church at 7:30pm.

Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2014. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Señora dela Paz Memorial Chapel to Kristo Rai Church at 7:30am. Responso service will be at 7:45am followed by Holy Rosary at 8:00am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am and Interment Service will take place at Chalan Kanoa cemetery where she will be at a peaceful rest with her husband †Antonio.

Please join us in prayers,

From the Children and families of the late

†Antonio Acosta Camacho and †Julita Sasamoto Camacho



Off The Wall

German museum shows live replica of van Gogh's ear

By FRANK JORDANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERLIN (AP)—A German museum has put on display a copy of Vincent van Gogh's ear that was grown using genetic material provided by one of the 19th-century Dutch artist's living relatives.

The Center for Art and Media in Karlsruhe said artist Diemut

Strebe made the replica using living cells from Lieuwe van Gogh, the great-great-grandson of Vincent's brother Theo.

Using a 3D-printer, the cells were shaped to resemble the ear that Vincent van Gogh is said to have cut off during a psychotic episode in 1888.

"I use science basically like a type of brush, like Vincent used

paint," Strebe told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Tuesday.

The U.S.-based artist said the ear, which was grown at Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital, is being kept alive inside a case containing a nourishing liquid and could theoretically last for years.

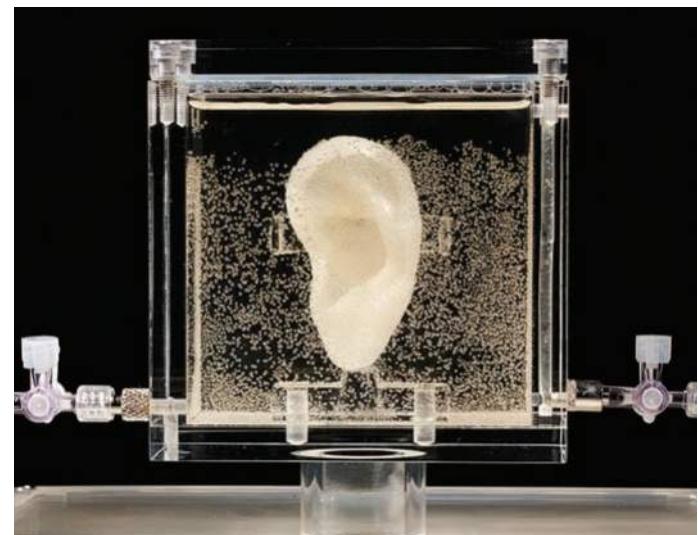
Convincing Lieuwe van Gogh to take part was easy. "He loved the project right away," said Strebe.

Lieuwe and Vincent van Gogh share about 1/16th of the same genes, including the Y-chromosome that is passed down the male lineage.

But hopes of using genetic material that belonged to the post-Impressionist master himself were dashed when DNA extracted from an envelope turned out to belong to someone else. "The postman messed it up," Strebe joked.

Still, work is underway with a female relative to include mitochondrial DNA—passed down the mother's line—for future installations.

The exhibition, at which visitors can speak into the ear through a microphone, lasts until July 6. Strebe said she plans to display the ear in New York next year.



AP

Undated picture shows an ear made of human cells grown from samples provided from a distant relative from Dutch artist Vincent van Gogh, in the center for art and media in Karlsruhe, Germany, Tuesday, June 3, 2014.

First Year Anniversary of Eternal Life



We, the family of the late

†Anthony Pellegrino “TONY”

Invite our family and friends to join us in prayer as we commemorate
†Tony's first year anniversary of eternal life.

Mass will be offered daily at 6:00am beginning May 30, 2014 and ending on
June 7, 2014 at Kristo Rai Church.

Your prayers, thoughts and presence are greatly appreciated.
Thank you to everyone!

From loving wife Milagros P. Pellegrino, Children and Family
Margaret "Miki" Pellegrino, Neil Charles Pellegrino, Abel O. Pellegrino,
Julian O. Pellegrino, Prunella O. Pellegrino, grandson Andrew & wife Regina

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Fake officer accused of pulling over a real one

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. (AP)—Police say a man impersonating an officer face charges after signaling a real detective to pull over on a road in Florida. St. Johns County authorities say 20-year-old Matthew Michael Lee McMahon activated a red and blue light Monday while driving behind an unmarked sheriff's car. Detective Chance Anderson pulled over and was shocked to see an unknown face behind the wheel of the other car. First Coast News reports that during his more than 10 years of service the detective has arrested several police impersonators. But none had ever ordered him to stop his car. McMahon is charged with impersonating an officer and unlawfully displaying blue lights. He was released Tuesday after posting \$5,500 in bail. It wasn't clear whether he's hired an attorney.

Kia hamster actor charged with disability fraud

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A man who played a dancing hamster in Kia car commercials and was a backup dancer for Madonna has been charged with California disability fraud. The California Department of Insurance says 27-year-old Leroy Barnes of Los Angeles collected \$51,000 in workers compensation benefits in 2010 and 2011. Barnes claimed he was disabled when a piece of ceiling fell on him. But the department says he made at least one Kia commercial, performed in a rap group, assisted in recording the song "Cat Daddy," and was a backup dancer for Madonna, Kelly Rowland and Chris Brown. Barnes was arrested last month and is free on bail. Insurance department spokeswoman Nancy Kincaid said she didn't know if he had a lawyer.

Man burns feces behind Seattle police station

SEATTLE (AP)—The No. 1 thing Seattle police officers noticed Sunday at the East Precinct station was a fire in the alley. The next thing was No. 2. A man told officers he had just relieved himself and was burning the feces. He said he did not know starting a fire was illegal and thought he did nothing wrong. Because there were nearby trash bins with paper, the 31-year-old man was arrested for reckless burning. The online police blotter says firefighters put out the fire and hosed down the alley. Police spokeswoman Renee Witt says there's nothing in the report to indicate why the man thought burning human waste behind the police station was a good idea, but he was not referred for a mental evaluation.

Spokane sheriff tells deputies, 'no sex on duty'

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP)—A Washington state sheriff has sent a memo to deputies telling them that sex on duty will not be tolerated. Spokane County Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich tells KREM he had to spell out the policy because a deputy he fired for the behavior won his job back last month in arbitration. The memo says that sex on duty is a breach of the public trust and a breach of the sheriff's office code of ethics, core values and officer safety.

Police: teen vandals call 911, are arrested

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—Police say a group of suspected teen vandals in New Mexico got so rattled when a crime victim chased after them they called 911 and were arrested as a result. KOAT-TV reports police say the teens, who range in age from 18 to 15, shot at several windshields with BB guns in a Santa Fe neighborhood, until one victim jumped in his car and followed them. Officials said the teens called 911, telling the dispatcher the car would speed up whenever they did. The teens face property damage and drug paraphernalia charges.

Science & Technology

Apple expands into health, home with new software

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Apple is expanding into home and health management as the company tries to turn its iPhones, iPads and Mac computers into an interchangeable network of devices that serve as a hub of people's increasingly digital lives.

The new tools for tracking health and controlling household appliances are part of updated operating systems that Apple unveiled Monday in San Francisco at its 25th annual conference for application developers.

The revised software for Apple Inc.'s devices won't be released to the general public until this fall when the company is also expected to start

selling the next generation of iPhones and iPads. A spruced-up line of Macs also could be coming before the holiday shopping season.

The lack of a flashy new gadget may disappoint some Apple fans who are still looking for proof that the company hasn't lost its ingenuity since Steve Jobs died in October 2011. Since then, Apple has mostly been making incremental improvements to the devices and software hatched under Jobs' leadership.

While those updates have been enough to maintain Apple's status as the world's most valuable company, they haven't quieted persisting

questions about the company's future prospects amid intensifying competition from other device makers.

Apple CEO Tim Cook, Jobs' hand-picked successor, turned Monday's spotlight over to one of his chief lieutenants—Craig Federighi—to discuss the company's upcoming software changes. The new versions, which will be free, are called iOS 8 for mobile devices and "Yosemite" for Macs.

The iOS 8 operating system includes "HealthKit" and "HomeKit" options that may test how just how much Apple customers trust the Cupertino, California, company to maintain their privacy.

HealthKit works with a new built-in app on the iOS 8 that will store a variety of information about people's medical histories, vital signs, fitness levels and diet. Other third-party apps will be able to access the data with a user's permission.

HomeKit is aiming to set up a system that lets an iPhone or iPad serve as the remote control of an entire household outfitted with an assortment of digital appliances.

A crowd lines up before the Apple World Wide Developers Conference 2014 at the Moscone Center in San Francisco, Monday, June 2, 2014.



TECH Q&A

Her files are locked; who has the key?

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: A local repair shop fixed my PC after it was attacked by a virus, but a few days later I noticed that I couldn't open some of my documents and photos. The repair people don't know what happened, so I'm sending you some of my files. Can they be recovered?—Evelyn Trinidad, Miami Beach, Fla.

ANSWER: Although your photos are labeled as being in the JPEG format used by most digital cameras, my photo software says that they "not valid" JPEG files. Your Microsoft Word file can be opened, but contains only gibberish.

I believe that malicious software has encrypted, or coded, your files to make them unreadable. Programs that do this are called "ransomware" because they usually display a message that's the equivalent of a ransom note: If you want your files unencrypted, you have to pay the hackers responsible using a prepaid credit card (so that the transaction can't be canceled later.) If you pay, the hackers may or may not use an encryption key, which only they have, to unlock your files and return them to normal.

Since you haven't received the ultimatum, I think your computer repair people probably removed both the ransomware program and the ransom note when they cleaned your computer. This had the secondary effect of severing your only means of communicating with the hackers. As a result, your files will remain encrypted and are gone for good.

This is both bad and good. You can't get your files back, but you also weren't tempted to pay these creeps to restore your files.

How can you avoid having this happen again? The best-known ransomware program is called CryptoLocker, and it's usually spread through "phishing emails" that appear to be from legitimate companies. Phishing emails try to trick you into clicking on a link to a website that contains malicious software. Don't click on these links, no matter how authentic the email appears to be. In addition, make backups of your important data on an external hard drive, flash drive or online storage site.

The U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team, which is part of the Homeland Security Department, describes CryptoLocker online at <http://tinyurl.com/pno3z7w>.

Q: In the past six months I've had problems with my work computer slowing down, sometimes for as much as 20 seconds. A little box on the screen shows what's stalled, such as downloading an email attachment, and asks if I want to "Wait" or "Cancel." If I wait, the PC resumes working.

My colleagues have cleaned up the computer, but it hasn't done any good. I wonder if the slowdowns are caused by the capacity of my PC, my Internet service provider or my Google Chrome browser. Any ideas?—Tomm Johnson, Edina, Minn.

A: The consensus in online forums is that the problem is caused by an unintentional software error—what programmers call a "bug"—in the Google Chrome browser. I suggest you download a newer version of Chrome, in which the problem has likely been fixed, or switch to another browser, such as Mozilla Firefox.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

In Loving Memory
**† PRUDENCIO
 TAISACAN MANGLONA**
 May 27, 1934 – June 3, 2014

PRUDENCIO T. MANGLONA of Rota passed away at the Commonwealth Health Center on Saipan on June 3, 2014. He was predeceased by his first wife **† Bernadita A. Manglona**, and is survived by his spouse, Virgie D. Manglona, and his children:

Vincent and Benita – Dean, Donovan, Maryann (Devan), Bernadita, Priscilla
Paul and Lydia – Deanna M. and Joseph Ogo (**† Julianna** and **Johannah**), Paul Jr., Denn, Pauline
John and Ramona – Dencio and Savana
Charles and Lorna – Mark (Esmé), Craig M. and Lhyne, Donald, Oliver, Charlene M. and Keith Ogo (Kylene)
Priscilla M. and William S. Torres – Nicole, Verne, William, Karena, Duane
† Roy
† Francisco – Norma Mae (Aleina), Carlo and Ayako (Cadence and Hana)
Prudencio Jr. and Sharon – Chanelle, Prudencio IV (Prudencio V), Vincent, Alana, Roy, Deon
† Norma Mae
Thomas and Patricia M. Songsong – Sirena M. and Kevin Atalig (Dravin and Liam), Mona, Thomas II, Samantha

Reared children: Rosie A. and Patrick M. Ogo; Julie O. and Ross S. Manglona

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his brothers and in-laws:

Antonio T. and Engracia O. Manglona, Benjamin T. (**† Magdalena**) and Maria R. Manglona, **† Augustin M. Celis** and Maria M. Celis, Antonio DIC. and Maria S. Atalig, Dolores A. Cabrera and **† Donicio Ch. Cabrera**, **† Teresita A.** and **† Juan M. Barcina**, Vinacio DIC. and Maria Q. Atalig, Baltazar DIC. and Dolores C. Atalig, and Blas DIC. and Mariquita Atalig.

In his new life, he joins his parents, in-laws, and siblings:

† Prudencio Mendiola Manglona and **† Maria Taisacan Manglona**, and **† Vicente Mendiola Atalig** and **† Josefa Dela Cruz Atalig**, and is also survived by numerous godchildren, nieces, and nephews.

At San Francisco de Borja Church in Songsong, Rota, mass is offered at **6:00 a.m.** and rosary is prayed at **7:00 p.m.** daily.

At Kristo Rai Church in Garapan, Saipan, daily mass is offered at **6:00 a.m.**, and rosary is prayed at **7:00 p.m.** until Sunday, June 8.

On Monday, June 9, at **7:30 a.m.**, the rosary, public viewing, and memorial prayer will take place at the Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan. The body of the deceased will arrive on Rota at **12:30 p.m.**, Tuesday, June 10.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, June 11, at **11:00 a.m.** at San Francisco de Borja Church. Interment follows immediately at the San Jose Cemetery.

The Manglona family extends a heartfelt Si Yu'us Ma'ase and appreciation to all.

Gift Guide: Wood-themed tech gifts for Dad



This June 3, 2014 photo shows the Fender Wayne Kramer "Royal Tone" Dreadnought CE acoustic guitar, in Decatur, Ga.

By RON HARRIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA (AP) Dads try to stay handsome, and their technology should, too.

Items that have a blend of technology and wood can look more exquisite than plastic or metal when included in the construction correctly. I found three noteworthy products sure to complete dad's stylish ensemble of personal technology:

■ GRAIN AUDIO PACKABLE WIRELESS SYSTEM (\$249):

Bluetooth speakers are readily available these days in

various shapes and colors. But many of them are shaped oddly and made of plastic. This speaker from Grain Audio bucks the trend and opts for a walnut wood finish on the majority of its exterior.

The grain pattern of the wood is attractive and blends nicely with the grey rubber edging that surrounds the speaker's metal grill. My tablets and phones synced easily after holding down the "G" button on the top for five seconds.

The sound is among the best you'll find in a Bluetooth speaker at this size and price. It easily handled some of my

bass-heavy electronic dance playlists.

■ GROVEMADE IPHONE CASE (\$39-\$99):

One way to class up your dad's mobile gear is to encase it in something slim, not bulky. Dads like to ruggedize everything in huge, obtuse rubbery cases. A better-looking alternative are some iPhone cases handcrafted from Oregon black walnut.

If dad is rocking an iPhone 5 or 5s, he may like the full case for \$99. The sides and the back of the two-piece slide-on case are made of hand-finished walnut.

If he wants something light for an iPhone 5c, he can opt

for the less-expensive walnut bumper, at \$39. It offers protection around the edges of the phone.

Both cases allow access to all the buttons, ports and camera lenses on the phones. Consider this a needed upgrade from dad's current Day-Glo "Go 'Niners!" cellphone case.

Sorry, but the company doesn't make these cases for Android phones, which come in an assortment of shapes and sizes.

■ FENDER WAYNE KRAMER "ROYAL TONE" CE GUITAR (\$549):

Nothing displays the beauty of wood as exquisitely as a

well-built dreadnought guitar.

This Wayne Kramer "Royal Tone" Dreadnought CE from Fender offers dad everything he'll need to rock out those acoustic MC5 proto-punk covers he's been covertly working on. Kramer was the lead guitarist for the 1960s band MC5, and his stamp of approval on this guitar is a nod to discerning rocker dads. The guitar has a spruce top with a vintage sunburst tone and mahogany on the back and sides.

There's some very polished technology involved with this guitar as well. Built into the guitar is a Fishman Isys III System preamp, as well as an onboard tuner. It's really nice to be able to

quickly tune all six strings with the onboard electronics, instead of having to tote along separate tuning gear in a gig bag.

The unplugged sound is bright and lively. The guitar comes off as an easy player for intermediate pickers like me. Plug it in to an amp, and it just flat out jams, blending crisp high notes and chunky power chord strums nicely. Dad will have himself a true performance-ready instrument should he choose to hit a local open-mic night.

This guitar is a good deal, at \$549, given the advanced electronics, top-shelf woods and attention to design detail.

In Celebration of His New Life

†Joaquin Cabrera Cepeda

December 06, 1938 - May 30, 2014

In His new Life, he now joins his:

Father: †Juan Ilano Cepeda
Mother: †Victoria Cabrera Cepeda
Father in Law: †Juan Cabrera Mendiola
Mother in Law: †Ana Quidachai Mendiola

His Memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Maria Mendiola Cepeda
Children:

- Soledad Victoria M. Cepeda (Brandon Jeremy, Cullen Jordan)
- Magdalena M. Cepeda & Peter John Mesngon (Joseph Jr.)
- Jose M. Cepeda & Constance Mizutani (Tiara Kyoko, Tyana Kay, Jose Jr.)
- William M. Cepeda & Carrie Zacharias
- Vincent M. & Dalisay B. Cepeda (Kaysandra Mae, Kirsten Courtney)
- Jennifer C. & Michael T. Camacho (Michael-Jay, Corlaine Marie, Ethan John, Hayden Joel)
- Sharleen C. & Jermaine C. Takai (Sean Quinn, Sharmaine Eliza, Shannen Faith)
- Sylvia C. & Dustin M. Pangelinan (Donald John, Nolana Victoria, Phaedra Monique, Dustin Miguel Jr.),

Reared Grandson: Joseph A. Kileleman
Brothers, Sister, In-Laws & Spouses

- †Luis C. & Benita B. Cepeda
- Francisco C. & Antonia P. Cepeda
- Antonio C. & †Rose B. Cepeda
- Rosa C. Cepeda
- Jose C. & Anita M. Cepeda

Daily Mass of Intentions are being celebrated each evening at San Vicente Church at 6:00pm followed by Holy Rosary at 6:30pm except on Wednesday, June 04, 2014, Mass and Holy Rosary will be at Santa Soledad Church in Kagman. On Thursday and Friday, Mass and Holy Rosary will resume back to San Vicente Church.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, June 07, 2014. His remains will be escorted at 7:30am from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel, Beach Rd., Garapan to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso Service will be at 7:45am followed by Holy Rosary at 8:00am.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am. Interment Service will be held at Sanctuario PAX Memorial Gardens in Kagman where he will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers,

Maria Mendiola Cepeda
Children and Families

Instagram vamps up photo editing tools

NEW YORK (AP)—The photo sharing app Instagram is adding editing tools that go beyond the vintage-looking filters that made it popular.

The Facebook-owned app said in a blog post Tuesday that users will be able to adjust the brightness, contrast, saturation and other features of photos they take with their smartphones.

The tools are available after downloading the newest version of Instagram, 6.0, on Android or Apple phones. The photo edit-

ing tools will appear under a wrench icon.

Instagram's filters can enhance photos or add a certain hue to them, to make them look like they were taken with a Polaroid camera in the 1970s. But as smartphone cameras have improved, many users have become more sophisticated about their snapshots. Some have turned to other apps with more powerful editing tools to fix photos before posting them on Instagram.

Life & Style

Underwood wins 3rd straight CMT video of year

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Carrie Underwood's special connection with CMT viewers helped her continue her run at the CMT Awards—and crash Luke Bryan's party.

Underwood won her third straight video of the year Wednesday night, taking the top honor for the fifth time with "See You Again." The "American Idol" champion is CMT's top overall winner with 11 belt buckles in her career.

Underwood managed to horn in on all the fun top winners Bryan and Florida Georgia Line were having. The two acts teamed up to win collaboration of the year for "This Is How We Roll"—a song they performed at the top of the show with Jason Derulo and ZZ Top and released as a remix with Derulo—and each won another belt buckle trophy.

Underwood teamed with Miranda Lambert to shut down the show with their song "Somethin' Bad" and was clearly surprised when she took fan-voted



Carrie Underwood accepts the award for video of the year for "See You Again" at the CMT Music Awards at Bridgestone Arena on Wednesday, June 4, 2014, in Nashville, Tenn.

Josh Trank to direct stand-alone 'Star Wars' film

NEW YORK (AP)—Josh Trank will direct one of the planned stand-alone "Star Wars" films.

Lucasfilm announced Wednesday that the 30-year-

old filmmaker will helm one of the two announced "Star Wars" spinoffs being made outside of the third trilogy. An earlier announced spinoff is to be led by "Godzilla" director Gareth Edwards.

Trank is the director of 2012's found footage-style science fiction thriller "Chronicle." He currently is working on "The Fantastic Four," the superhero team-up reboot scheduled for release next year.

Lucasfilm gave no details on the subject of the "Star Wars" movie. J.J. Abrams is in production on "Star Wars: Episode VII," which will follow

"The Return of the Jedi" in chronology.

Abrams on Tuesday tweeted a photo with a note pleading for people not to leak photos from the set of "Episode VII." In recent days, dozens of photos from the set of the film have appeared online.

But his message was also tongue-in-cheek. Though Abrams alluded to "ridiculous claims that the Millennium Falcon is in the movie," his note was wryly played on the spaceship's familiar "Holochess" board. "Star Wars" fans quickly picked up on the pun.

'Jupiter Ascending' release postponed to Feb. 6, 2015

NEW YORK (AP)—Just six weeks ahead of its planned release, the Wachowskis' space thriller "Jupiter Ascending" has been postponed to 2015.

Warner Bros. announced the date change late Tuesday. The movie, with a budget of \$150 million or more and starring Channing Tatum and Mila Kunis, will now open Feb. 6 instead of July 18.

It's a stunning and unusual move for a high-profile film so close to release. "Jupiter

Ascending," which Warner Bros. co-financed with Village Roadshow, will bounce out of the lucrative but high-pressure summer movie season and into early February, often a dumping ground for troubled movies.

Andy and Lana Wachowski have a checkered box-office track record. Though their "Matrix" trilogy was a huge hit, their "Cloud Atlas" and "Speed Racer" both flopped at the box office.

video of the year.

"It's really hard to believe," Underwood said on stage. "I've been doing this for nine years but every single second of those nine years you guys have been amazing."

Underwood was probably surprised because it looked like it might be shaping up for a double Bryan-FGL win for "That's How We Roll." It was one of the few times Bryan didn't win. Male video of the year winner Blake Shelton bet against himself in the category, wagering that Bryan would win the category. Shelton won for "Doin' What She Likes," and now he'll be doing what Bryan likes.

"I owe Luke an expensive dinner, but that's OK," Shelton joked.

Bryan was a constant fixture early in the awards. He teamed up with his superfriends to kick it off, mashing up "This Is How We Roll," Derulo's "Talk Dirty" and ZZ Top's "La Grange." He took a shot from host Kristen Bell about falling off the stage last week—while wrapped in yellow warning tape.

And he and FGL helped Bell with her monologue, taping a segment poking fun at the Jay Z-Solange Knowles elevator dustup, complete with black-

and-white security footage.

He returned to the stage later after winning CMT performance of the year with Lionel Richie for their performance of "Oh No" and "All Night Long" from "2013 CMT Artists of the Year."

"The fact that I have won an award with you is just amazing, buddy," Bryan said from the stage.

"All I can say is, if I'm having this much fun, let's do it again," Richie responded.

Bryan returned to sing his own hit "Play It Again" while he strolled through the audience.

Richie said Bryan is experiencing a run much like his own in the mid-1970s that made him an international star.

"Every once in a while—and it happened to me—there's a moment and time in your career when the forces and stars come together ... and this is Luke's time," Richie said. "I knew it the first time I met him. It really is special. You can see it in his eyes. You can see it in the way he acts. He feels empowered right now and I know that wonderful feeling. And by the way, it's going to happen for a while because he has that genuine personality."

And he and FGL helped Bell with her monologue, taping a segment poking fun at the Jay Z-Solange Knowles elevator dustup, complete with black-

The Bryan-FGL-Derulo-ZZ Top mega-mashup wasn't the only team up. John Legend, Jennifer Nettles and Hunter Hayes joined together on a countrified version of Legend's hit "All of Me." Eric Church and Lzzy Hale of hard rockers Halestorm turned the volume up to 11 on a version of "That's Damn Rock & Roll" that featured power vocals from Hale and a rap from Church.

Kacey Musgraves and Lee Ann Womack teamed up to salute Alan Jackson with a duet of his song "Livin' on Love" after he was awarded with the first CMT Impact Award. Jackson is celebrating the 25th year of his career.

Keith Urban performed "Cop Car" in a spot-on re-creation of Nashville's legendary The Bluebird Cafe that was surprisingly lifted into the rafters as Urban wrapped up the song. And Little Big Town put on the night's most colorful performance of the new single "Day Drinkin'," beginning on an all-white set before paint cannons turned everything into a rainbow.

The Band Perry won group of the year for "Done" and Cassadee Pope took breakthrough video for "Wasting All These Tears."

Blunt reveals new toughness in 'Edge of Tomorrow'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—What's more scary, fighting aliens with Tom Cruise or singing in front of Meryl Streep and Johnny Depp?

Both brought butterflies to Emily Blunt's stomach, which is how the 31-year-old actress knows when to take a role.

"I like asking myself, 'How on Earth am I going to do this?'" Blunt said as she sipped an iced latte at a coffee shop in the artsy L.A. neighborhood of Los Feliz.

In her latest film, "Edge of Tomorrow," the lithe British beauty wields big guns—the biceps and military-style variety—as Rita Vrataski, tasked with turning Cruise's character from a scared pencil pusher to a skilled warrior.

"In these male-fueled genres, it's usually the woman who's holding the hand of the guy and he's running through explosions leading her, and I wanted to be doing the leading," Blunt said. "This was the extreme idea of what I ever thought I'd want to do."

Her background is in theater—she made her professional debut on a London stage in 2002 opposite Judi Dench. Blunt's big-screen breakthrough came four years later in "The Devil Wears Prada" as the chilly magazine assistant who was "just one stomach flu away" from her goal weight. She has since

appeared in more than 20 movies.

But none prepared her to be an action star. What did was three months of rigorous training in martial arts, weapons and wire work; and working with Cruise,

who famously does his own stunts. ("I didn't want him to be the only one showing off," she laughs.) Blunt wore a weighted vest to prepare for the 85-pound armored "Exo-Suit" she wears in the film. She nearly broke her nose—demonstrating for a reporter how the on-set physician straightened it with a finger in each nostril and a quick, painful shift—and may have permanently damaged her thumb.

The training helped her become Rita, and taught Blunt about herself. The training helped her become Rita, and taught Blunt about herself.

"I think it did toughen me up in a big way," she said, "because now I know what I'm capable of."

Director Doug Liman said Blunt's character is "the hero of the movie."

"Emily's performance is even more impressive when you step back and see that she dominates the screen against the biggest movie star in the world whose character also

happens to have a superpower," he said.



BLUNT

Blunt's next role demanded a different sort of bravery: singing on screen. Blunt, Streep and Depp star in Rob Marshall's dark musical fairy tale, "Into the Woods," due in theaters on Christmas Day. She worked with a singing coach to prepare for her role in the Stephen Sondheim adaptation.

Besides training, Blunt draws on her deep love of people to inform the characters she plays. An avid reader, she finds that discovering characters on the page inspires her when she creates them on the screen.

"When I choose to play a character, it's because I love that human heartbeat that they have and I've found an 'in' with them," she said.

Disconnecting from Hollywood is part of the process. Blunt recharges at home with her husband, actor John Krasinski, and their 3 1/2-month-old daughter, Hazel. The couple likes to entertain, and Blunt cooks Italian dishes, and a few from her homeland ("English food is underrated," she said).

That source of off-camera love and stability allows Blunt to weather Hollywood's whims and follow the butterflies when a challenging role beckons.

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22 JUMP STREET [CC,DV] (R) Thu.700 PM

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 [CC,DV] (NR) Thu.820 PM

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 3D [CC,DV] (NR) Thu.800 PM

EDGE OF TOMORROW [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri. Sat.(430 PM) 1030 PM Sun. - Thu.(430 PM)

EDGE OF TOMORROW 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri.730 PM Sat. - Sun.(130 PM) 730 PM Mon. - Thu.730 PM

MALEFICENT [CC,DV] (PG) Fri. - Sat.(445 PM) 945 PM Sun. - Thu.(445 PM)

MALEFICENT 3D [CC,DV] (PG) Fri.715 PM Sat. - Sun.(215 PM) 715 PM Mon. - Wed.715 PM Thu.730 PM

MILLION WAYS TO DIE IN THE WEST [CC,DV] (R) Fri.(415 PM) 710 PM 1000 PM Sat.(15 415) 710 1000 Sun.(15 415) 710 1000 Mon. - Thu.(415 PM) 710 PM

X-MEN: DAYS OF FUTURE PAST [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri.705 PM 1005 PM Sat.(100 PM) 705 PM 1005 PM Sun.(100 PM) 705 PM Mon. - Thu.705 PM

X-MEN: DAYS OF FUTURE PAST 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri.(420 PM) 720 1020 Sat.(120 420) 720 1020

BLENDED [CC,DV] (PG-13) Sun.(120 PM) 720 PM Mon. - Wed.(420 PM) 720 PM Thu.(420 PM)

GODZILLA [CC,DV] (PG) Fri.(425 PM) 725 PM 1015 PM Sat.(125 425) 725 1015 Sun.(125 PM) 425 PM 725 PM Mon. - Wed.(425 PM) 725 PM Thu.(425 PM)

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN 2 [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri.(345 PM) 700 PM 1010 PM Sat.(345 345) 700 1010 Sun.(345 PM) 345 PM 700 PM Mon. - Wed.(410 PM) 735 PM Thu.(410 PM)

Times For 06/06 - 06/12 www.REGmovies.com

A few 'inmates' from 'Orange' discuss prison life

By FRAZIER MOORE
AP TELEVISION WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—An upper-middle class blonde from Brooklyn goes to jail for a drug-related screw-up years before.

The women's federal prison of "Orange Is the New Black" is a different world than Piper Chapman had known, populated with a wildly varied group of characters played (alongside series star Taylor Schilling) by TV's most diverse cast of actors.

As this Netflix series shot its second season last fall on its Queens, New York, soundstage, a visit to the all-too-gritty-looking prison set found several of these actresses delighted to be serving time on this groundbreaking drama (whose 13 new episodes are available for streaming Friday on the Netflix website):

PBS: Ivory tusks are off 'Antiques Roadshow'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—PBS says "Antiques Roadshow" is dropping appraisals of ivory tusks.

The tusks won't be shown in new episodes or in segments drawn from previously aired shows, PBS said Wednesday.

The popular public TV series features a wide variety of items brought in for professional assessment, including of their market value.

The Wildlife Conservation Society lauded the decision as an important step in ensuring elephant ivory tusks and their "assumed monetary value" are not glorified on TV.

Ivory poaching is decimating the ranks of Africa's endangered elephants, the group said.

PBS said antique items that include ivory elements, such as musical instruments, will continue to be appraised to inform "Antiques Roadshow" viewers about such objects and what PBS called "the larger issues at hand."

■ TV veteran Kate Mulgrew ("Star Trek: Voyager," "Warehouse 13") plays "Red" Reznikov, a tough-as-nails inmate who was once part of New York's Russian mob and now runs the prison kitchen.

"The hardest part of the show was finding my character before they said 'Action!' the first day," she says. "You have to be able to show her toughness and, through her toughness, her heart—and you had to show it from the first shot."

She did. Ever since, it's been a blast for Mulgrew.

"This is not a vanity role," she acknowledges. "But I'm of an age now (59) where none of that is as important as it once was. To find a role this rich, nuanced and specific is absolutely joyful for me. It's liberating."

■ "Taystee" Jefferson is Danielle Brooks' first big role after graduating from the Juilliard School. Hers is not a vanity role, either.

"There are times when I'm like, 'Can we please do my eyebrows? Can I get a little more foundation?'" says Brooks with a laugh. "But I truly enjoy the freedom of coming to work, not having to wear Spanx or extensions, to just be me. You can't hide behind anything here. It's really freeing."

She wants her audience to identify with Taystee, no matter how unrelated her character might seem at first.

"We all cry, we all bleed, we all hurt," Brooks declares. "I want everyone to see Taystee, who they feel so far away from, and realize: 'I've felt like her before.'"

■ Growing up in Washington, D.C., Samira Wiley, who plays Taystee's friend, the jokester Poussey Washington,

D-Day ship's flag among WWII artifacts up for sale

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—A U.S. flag from one of the thousands of Allied ships that delivered troops to the Normandy beaches is among the hundreds of D-Day and other World War II artifacts being auctioned in New York City a day before the 70th anniversary of the history-changing invasion.

The sale at Bonhams in Manhattan also features rare print-outs of the original series of hourly Dow Jones news bulletins reporting the fight-

ing on France's north coast on June 6, 1944. The American flag that flew aboard the U.S.-built LST 493 and the Dow Jones documents, both owned by World War II collector Rodney Hilton Brown, have pre-sale estimates of \$12,000 to \$18,000.

The auction also includes battlefield souvenirs, innovative wartime technology, rare documents and photographs from the war's European and Pacific theaters.

death. How do you convince someone to get help? How do you make her see that Dad died so she could enjoy the many freedoms of America?

DRAINED IN DELAWARE

DEAR DRAINED: I'm sorry for your family's loss, but we are all responsible for our own behavior and our own emotions. You can't force "help" on your dysfunctional sister. Before she'll be willing to accept that she needs it, she will have to accept that SHE has been responsible for her own mistakes and behavior. If your father had lived, her life might not have been any different than it is.

The person who COULD



This image released by Netflix shows Kate Mulgrew, from left, Diane Guerrero, Selenis Leyva, Jessica Pimentel, Jackie Cruz and Dascha Polanco in a scene from "Orange is the New Black." The second season of the prison series will be available on Friday, June 6, on Netflix.

knew from childhood she wanted to be an actress.

"But I couldn't necessarily see where I might fit in," she says. It was clear there weren't a lot of black women snagging great roles on TV. "But there's

In sweats, Cosby remembers classmate at memorial

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—There was no missing Bill Cosby at a memorial for businessman and philanthropist Lewis Katz.

Among a sea of dark suits, Cosby sported red Temple University sweatpants and a school T-shirt.

The 72-year-old Katz died

JK Rowling tweet tweaks Amazon in contract dispute

NEW YORK (AP)—J.K. Rowling added a subtle comment under her pen name Robert Galbraith on Wednesday about the standoff between her publisher and Amazon.com.

The "Harry Potter" author noted in a tweet from @rgalbraith that there are "lots of ways to order" her novel "The Silkworm" in the U.S., as "Amazon kindly suggest(s)." Rowl-

ing spokeswoman Rebecca Salt confirmed that the Twitter account was authentic.

Amazon is in a contract dispute with Rowling's U.S. publisher, Hachette Book Group, and isn't accepting pre-orders for "The Silkworm" and other Hachette releases. "The Silkworm," Rowling's second Galbraith detective novel, is out June 19.

Hachette authors James Pat-

erson and Sherman Alexie and non-Hachette author John Green are among those who have strongly criticized the Seattle-based online retailer.

Amazon has suggested negotiations will be prolonged and customers in the meantime can buy Hachette books from its competitors. As of late Monday afternoon, "The Silkworm" was No. 10 on Barnes & Noble.com.

ing spokeswoman Rebecca Salt confirmed that the Twitter account was authentic.

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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Watterson

Garfield®



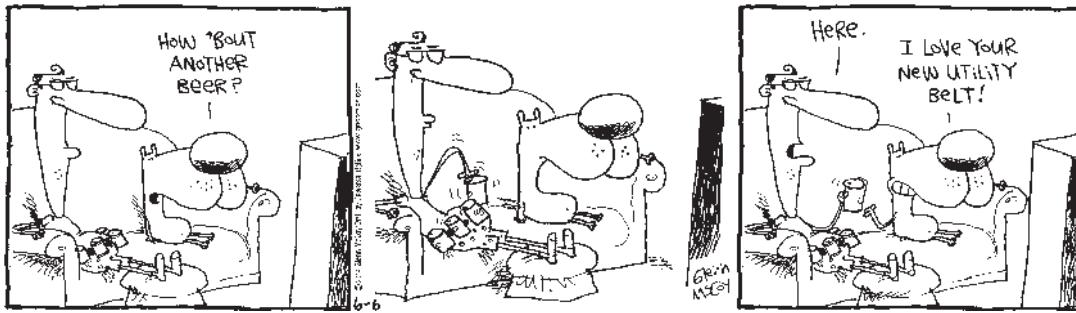
By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

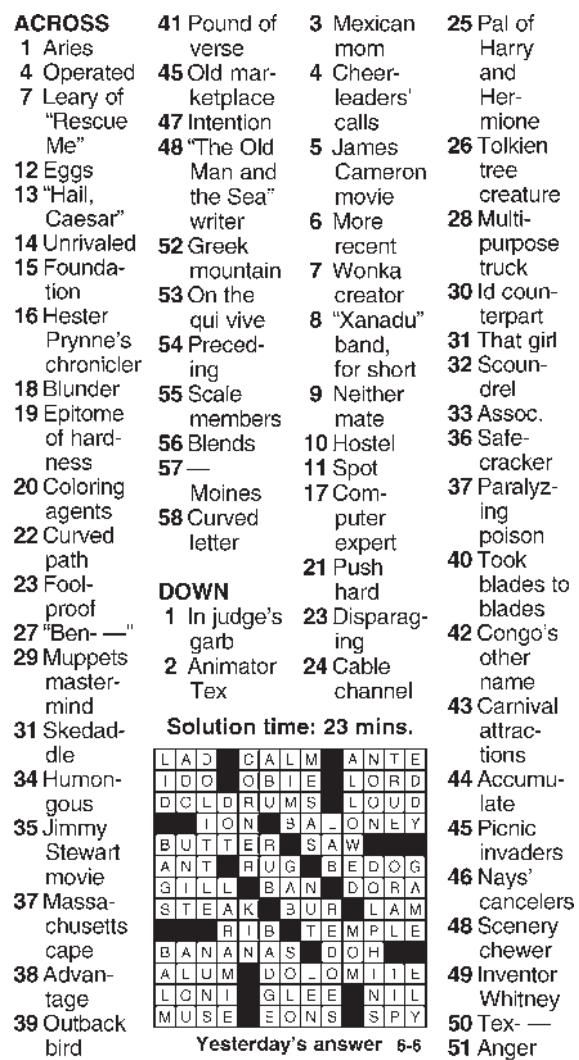
The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer



Yesterday's answer 6-6

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Carl Barat, 36; Natalie Morales, 42; Paul Giamatti, 47; Robert Englund, 67.

Happy Birthday: Use your imagination and you will find a solution for any problem you face this year. Your insightfulness coupled with thoughtful responses will help you win favors that allow you to hit your targets. Don't hold back due to a personal issue that isn't going your way. Strive for perfection and success and everything else will eventually fall into place. Your numbers are 3, 9, 13, 21, 28, 35, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Start a new health and fitness regimen that will ensure you will perform at your best, regardless of the obstacles you face. A change in your living arrangement may not be wanted or expected, but in the end will lead to improvement. ☀☀☀

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Listen to what's being said and take whatever information you can use and run with it. What you accomplish today will help you stabilize your home and future opportunities. Knowledge is key and can lead to an interesting partnership. ☀☀☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stick to what you know and the people who share your interests. You will face problems if you try to convince people who oppose your beliefs to change. Don't let the choices you make cost you physically, emotionally or financially. ☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take a greater interest in your home and how you can make positive changes. Don't let

anyone interfere or stop you from making choices that will add to your comfort and happiness. Focus on your personal goals, but stay within budget. ☀☀☀

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Ask questions and make changes or adjustments that will better position you for future trends. You will learn a lot if you watch the mistakes others make. Aim for greater security at home and at work. ☀☀

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Stop worrying about tomorrow and start living for today. The way you deal with things now will help you build a strong, healthy future. Love is on the rise and romance will help you to stabilize a personal relationship. ☀☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep conversations to a minimum and avoid gossip. It's important to focus on making personal changes that can lead to self-improvement and to steer clear of any situation that might result in a dispute with someone you live or work with. ☀☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Creativity coupled with imagination and interaction with people you find motivating will lead you in a positive direction. Love and romance are in the stars, and a relationship will improve with a little tender loving care. ☀☀☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Listen carefully, do your research and don't rely on secondhand information. A change may be needed, but a hasty decision based on iffy information will be costly. Put your energy into home and work improvements. Doing a good job will bring satisfaction. ☀

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be careful while traveling or discussing important matters that can alter the way you move forward. Not everyone will be on your side. Aim to stabilize your position. Now is not the time to take chances, spend foolishly or over-react. ☀☀☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Leave well enough alone when dealing with friends, neighbors or relatives. Focus on home and those you are closest to and you will avoid loss or hardship. A good investment is one that helps you get ahead. ☀☀

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Have friends, relatives or neighbors over for a little get-together. Personal investments will pay off, and making changes to your surroundings will ease stress and bring you great joy. Love is highlighted and romance will be rewarding. ☀☀

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	5	3	6	4	1	8	2	7
2	1	7	3	5	8	6	4	9
8	4	6	7	2	9	1	3	5
7	2	1	8	3	6	9	5	4
3	9	4	2	1	5	7	6	8
6	8	5	9	7	4	3	1	2
4	7	8	5	6	3	2	9	1
5	3	9	1	8	2	4	7	6
1	6	2	4	9	7	5	8	3

Difficulty Level ★★★★

6/6

By DAVID OUELLET

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Solution: 6 letters

P	F	F	P	M	N	G	R	E	N	E	G	H
I	L	D	L	E	I	D	T	H	O	T	N	J
D	O	A	E	A	E	R	C	E	A	O	U	T
S	W	R	N	L	T	I	O	C	L	I	N	S
T	E	K	I	T	U	Z	I	N	C	E	S	F
E	R	O	A	Q	L	L	B	E	I	D	M	I
M	B	C	T	E	E	U	S	R	I	B	O	N
U	Y	R	E	D	N	E	T	O	R	E	W	T
I	E	I	B	C	A	U	N	N	R	T	P	E
S	N	S	H	G	N	E	I	L	E	A	V	H
S	I	P	E	O	T	C	E	N	E	R	G	Y
A	L	M	T	O	A	C	U	R	Y	O	V	W
T	O	Y	R	I	B	O	F	L	A	V	I	N
O	H	A	N	T	I	O	X	I	D	A	N	T
P	C	O	M	P	U	N	D	E	N	N	A	F

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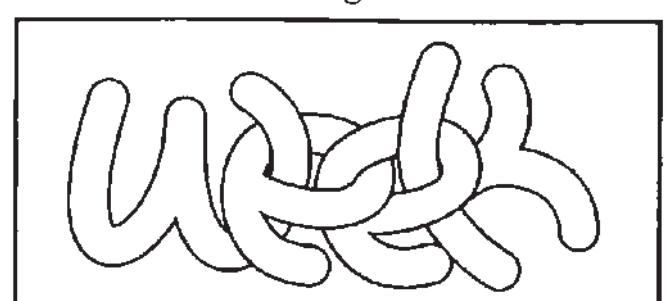
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Slumping Tigers lose again, 8-2 to Blue Jays



D E T R O I T
(AP)—Adam Lind doubled twice to drive in

three runs and Melky Cabrera added a homer and three hits, lifting the Toronto Blue Jays to an 8-2 victory over the Detroit Tigers on Wednesday night.

Lind's two-run double off Rick Porcello (8-3) in the sixth put Toronto ahead 3-2, and Aaron Loup got out of a bases-loaded, none-out jam in the bottom of the inning in relief of R.A. Dickey (6-4).

The AL East-leading Blue Jays added three runs in the eighth and two in the ninth in winning for the 18th time in 22 games.

Miguel Cabrera and Ian Kinsler homered for Detroit, but Kinsler also left the bases loaded twice. The AL Central-leading Tigers left 11 runners on base in their fourth straight loss. Detroit has dropped 12 of 16.

Jose Bautista also had three hits for Toronto, including a two-run double in the ninth.

Indians 7, Red Sox 4, 12 innings

In Cleveland, Asdrubal Cabrera hit a three-run homer with one out in the 12th inning to give Cleveland a three-game sweep of the defending World Series champions.

With two runners on and Boston playing five infielders, Cabrera drove an 0-1 pitch from Edward Mujica (2-2) into Boston's bullpen as the Indians won their sixth straight overall and ninth in a row at home. Cleveland is an AL-best 21-11 at Progressive Field.

The start of the game was delayed by rain until 9:33 p.m., canceling a scheduled ceremonial first pitch by Browns rookie quarterback Johnny Manziel.

Carlos Carrasco (1-3), the Indians' seventh pitcher, worked two innings.

The surging Indians have trimmed seven games off first-place Detroit's lead in the AL Central in 17 days. Cleveland is within 3½ games and back to .500 for the first time since April 24.

David Ortiz homered for the Red Sox, who came in riding a seven-game winning streak.

Diamondbacks 16, Rockies 8

In Denver, Miguel Montero drove in a career-high six runs, Paul Goldschmidt hit a go-ahead, three-run double in the eighth inning and Arizona sent Colorado to its sixth straight loss.

The Rockies led 8-5 before the Diamondbacks scored six times in the eighth to reclaim the lead. They were hardly done, adding five more in the ninth to turn a close game into a runaway win. The Diamondbacks tied a season high with 21 hits.

The top five hitters in the lineup each had three hits and combined for 14 RBIs. Montero drove in two runs on sacrifice flies, had a run-scoring single and hit a three-run homer in the ninth.

Brad Ziegler (2-1) got two outs in the seventh to earn the win. Rex Brothers (2-4) took the loss after the big eighth.

White Sox 2, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, John Danks and three relievers combined on a two-hitter and Leury Garcia hit his first major league home run for Chicago.

Danks (4-5) allowed only two hits and one run and struck out five in 7 1-3 innings for his first road win in more



in four runs, including the go-ahead run in the seventh inning to lead Minnesota to its seventh win in its last eight games against Milwaukee.

Arcia hit a three-run home run in the fourth inning, going deep for the third time in 10 games since his recall from Triple-A, and Josh Willingham forced in a run with a bases-loaded walk in the fifth inning before setting up Arcia's go-ahead single with a two-out double.

Aramis Ramirez returned from the disabled list after missing 21 games with a strained left hamstring to wallop a three-run homer that tied the game at 4 in the seventh, following leadoff singles by Jonathan Lucroy and Carlos Gomez.

Ricky Nolasco (4-5), who retired 13 straight batters until that point, recovered to finish the inning and pick up the victory when the Twins rallied again in the bottom of the frame.

Angels 4, Astros 0

In Houston, Garrett Richards stuck out nine to match his career best over eight excellent innings and Los Angeles snapped a season-worst four-game skid.

Richards (5-2) bounced back from a terrible outing in his last start when he allowed five runs while getting only two outs. It was the shortest non-injury-related start of his career.

Joe Smith struck out one in a hitless ninth to complete the four-hitter for the Angels.

Erick Aybar had two doubles and an RBI, and David Freese doubled and drove in a run for the Angels.

Houston starter Jarred Cosart (4-5) allowed eight hits and three runs and tied a career-high with eight strikeouts in 6 2-3 innings.

Marlins 5, Rays 4

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Donovan Solano

hit a three-run homer off David Price to

help Miami extend Tampa Bay's longest

losing streak in nearly five years to nine

games. It is the second-longest losing

streak in the major leagues this season.

Casey McGehee had an RBI single

for the Marlins, who won the first two

games of a four-game home-and-home

series in Miami, including Tuesday's

1-0 win on a bases-loaded walk.

The sputtering Rays, coming off

an 0-8 trip that was the worst in team

history, tumbled 14 games under .500

at 23-37—the second-worst record in

baseball. The last time they were this

far below the break-even point was the

end of 2007, the final season they were

called the Devil Rays.

Giants 3, Reds 2

In Cincinnati, Michael Morse and Juan

Perez homered with two outs in the sixth

inning and San Francisco ended Cincinnati's season-high four-game winning streak.

San Francisco won for the 10th time

in 13 games, improving the best record

in the majors to 38-21.

Morse hit a solo shot and Perez had

a two-run homer off left-hander Tony

Cingrani (2-6), who has lost all of his

four starts since returning from shoul-

der tendinitis.

Ryan Vogelsong (4-2) extended his

recent streak of solid pitching by giving

up two runs and seven hits in 6 1-3

innings while fanning a career-high nine.

The right-hander is 3-0 with a 2.05

ERA in last four starts.

Hector Rondon pitched the ninth for

his seventh save in eight chances.

Reliever Dana Eveland (0-1) gave up a run in 2-3 of an inning to take the loss.

Detroit Tigers' Ian Kinsler connects for a solo home run during the third inning of a baseball game against the Toronto Blue Jays in Detroit, Wednesday, June 4, 2014.

than six weeks. He entered the game 1-3 with a 6.83 ERA in five road starts. He also had an infield single in the sixth inning, his second hit in 28 career plate appearances.

Garcia led off the third with a homer and Adam Dunn homered to lead off the fourth.

Josh Beckett (3-3) went six innings and allowed two runs and nine hits for the Dodgers, who have lost six of their last eight.

Nationals 8, Phillies 4

In Washington, Stephen Strasburg struck out 11 in seven innings and Washington kept Philadelphia's bats quiet yet again in the rain-interrupted game.

Strasburg (5-4) had the Phillies flailing as he hit double digits in Ks for the 15th time in his career — and for the fourth time without issuing a walk. All but one of the strikeouts were swinging, including Marlon Byrd (95 mph fastball), Ryan Howard (95 mph fastball) and Domonic Brown (88 mph changeup) when the rain started to fall in the sixth inning.

The only consolation for the Phillies is that they scored an earned run for the first time in four games when facing the Nationals' ace. The streak reached 25 innings.

Cardinals 5, Royals 2, 11 innings

In Kansas City, Mo., Matt Carpenter had a career-high five hits, including the go-ahead double in the 11th inning, and St. Louis snapped a three-game losing streak.

After the Royals rallied with two runs in the ninth, Peter Bourjos worked a one-out walk off Royals reliever Kelvin Herrera (1-2) in the 11th. Carpenter then rapped his double to center field.

Allen Craig added a two-run single off Tim Collins later in the inning, and Pat Neshek breezed through the bottom half to end the Royals' six-game winning streak against National League clubs.

Sam Freeman (1-0) earned the win with a perfect 10th inning.

Athletics 7, Yankees 4

In New York, Yoenis Cespedes hom-

ered twice, Josh Donaldson hit a tie-breaking shot in the seventh inning and Oakland overcame a four-run deficit to beat skidding New York for its fifth straight victory.

Donaldson connected off Jose Ramirez, who was making his major league debut, and added a pair of infield singles. Cespedes also had three hits to help the A's move a season-best 15 games over .500 at 37-22, the best mark in the American League.

Jacoby Ellsbury had three hits, including a three-run homer, but the Yankees matched a season worst with their fourth consecutive defeat. They've been outscored 21-0 from the seventh inning on during the slide.

An error by Derek Jeter hurt New York, which dropped to 1-5 on a seven-game homestand.

Padres 3, Pirates 2

In San Diego, the Padres had only one hit—Everth Cabrera's bunt single in the first inning—and still beat Pittsburgh thanks to Francisco Liriano's wildness.

The Padres played ultimate small-ball, scoring on a sacrifice fly, an error and a bases-loaded walk to avoid a three-game sweep. Rene Rivera's fly to Andrew McCutcheon to end the eighth was the only ball fielded by a Pirates outfielder. Carlos Quentin's hit a sacrifice fly in the first, but it was caught in short right by second baseman Josh Harrison.

Ian Kennedy (5-6) won his third straight start, striking out seven and allowing two runs on five hits in six innings. He walked one. Huston Street pitched the ninth for his 18th save in as many chances.

Liriano (1-6) walked six and struck out seven in five innings.

Orioles 6, Rangers 5

In Arlington, Texas, Nick Markakis hit a home run and a go-ahead single, and Chris Davis homered for Baltimore against his former team just as Nelson Cruz did a day earlier.

Markakis' single in the sixth inning came after Adrian Beltre's second home run of the game—a three-run shot—pulled Texas even at 5-all in

the fifth.

Cruz had three singles and reached twice on errors by Luis Sardinas, a surprise fill-in at shortstop for Elvis Andrus. It was the second time in less than a week Andrus wasn't in the starting lineup.

Bud Norris (4-5) allowing six hits and five runs in five innings for the Orioles, and the bullpen pitched four scoreless innings. Zach Britton earned his fifth save.

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In St. Petersburg, Fla., Donovan Solano hit a three-run homer off David Price to help Miami extend Tampa Bay's longest losing streak in nearly five years to nine games. It is the second-longest losing streak in the major leagues this season.

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Ryan Vogelsong (4-2) extended his recent streak of solid pitching by giving up two runs and seven hits in 6 1-3 innings while fanning a career-high nine. The right-hander is 3-0 with a 2.05 ERA in last four starts.

Twins 6, Brewers 4

In Minneapolis, Oswaldo Arcia drove

Nadal, Murray set up French Open semifinal matchup

PARIS (AP)—Briefly, and only briefly, Rafael Nadal was in a difficult spot in the French Open quarterfinals.

For the first time in this year's tournament, the eight-time champion dropped a set.

And this had to be on Nadal's mind: His opponent, David Ferrer, could present real problems. Not only is Ferrer ranked No. 5, and not only was he the runner-up at Roland Garros a year ago—to Nadal, of course—but he also beat Nadal on red clay the last time they played each other.

So how did Nadal handle this test? Perfectly. From late in the second set, he won 10 games in a row, and 13 of 14 the rest of the way, to come back and beat Ferrer 4-6, 6-4, 6-0, 6-1, setting up a semifinal Friday against Wimbledon champion Andy Murray.

"At the beginning," Nadal acknowledged, "David was playing with a higher intensity than me."

But once Nadal made a key adjustment—deciding to dispense with his surprisingly off-target backhand as much as possible and instead do whatever he could to use his topspin-heavy forehand—he took over.

After committing 28 unforced errors across the windy first two sets, Nadal had zero in the third, and only three in the last.

"When I was able to hit with my forehand," Nadal said, "I felt that I was in control."

Ferrer, for his part, said that in the latter stages, "I lost my concentration, my focus."

It was Nadal's 33rd consecutive win at the French Open and improved his record in the event to 64-1. His only loss at



Britain's Andy Murray celebrates scoring a point during the quarterfinal match of the French Open tennis tournament against France's Gael Monfils at the Roland Garros stadium, in Paris, France, Wednesday, June 4, 2014.

the tournament came to Robin Soderling in the fourth round in 2009.

The Spaniard, who turned 28 on Tuesday, is not used to facing much in the way of hardship at Roland Garros. So Nadal took what he was able to do against Ferrer as a good sign.

"At the end of the day, I am rather happy to have been able

to turn the situation around," said Nadal, who wasn't thrilled to be put on Court Suzanne Lenglen, the second-largest arena, for the second time this year. "I managed to pull through, even though it was complicated."

The route Murray took during his 6-4, 6-1, 4-6, 1-6, 6-0 victory over No. 23 Gael Monfils of France was far more circu-

itous, finishing right on the cusp of dusk after 9:30 p.m. In front of a crowd loudly pulling for Monfils at Court Philippe Chatrier, Murray was terrific at the outset, mediocre in the middle, then closed on a high.

After a brief discussion with a tournament official over whether there was enough sun to play the fifth set—the Roland Garros

courts have no artificial lights—Murray made the whole thing moot. He raced through that set in 21 minutes, winning 24 of 31 points, as Monfils appeared to stop trying.

"Everything happened very fast," Monfils said.

Said Murray: "It was so dark at the end. Thankfully for me, he played a poor fifth set

James feels 'blessed' by shot at another NBA title

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—LeBron James should be used to the NBA Finals by now. After five trips to the championship series in eight years, it would make sense if he had a been-there, done-that attitude when stepping onto the sport's biggest stage.

He doesn't.

On Wednesday James took a seat inside a makeshift interview area, sneaked a quick glance at the NBA Finals signage that was off to his left side, and beamed like a kid in a candy store. Just a couple years removed from being ripped for not delivering in the moments that decide championships, James seems more comfortable in these surroundings than ever.

"I'm blessed, man," James said. "That's all I can say."

And then, without stopping, the four-time MVP said much more.

"This is my fifth appearance in a finals," he continued. "I'm blessed. I was a kid who watched so many finals appearances and, you know, watched Michael Jordan and watched

Shaq and Kobe ... we watched throwback finals games. ... I just wished maybe I could see the finals verbiage behind me and be a part of this."

His wishes come true again Thursday night, when James and the Miami Heat open these finals against the San Antonio Spurs, the NBA's first championship-series rematch since 1998. The Heat are going for a third straight title, the Spurs are trying for their fifth crown since 1999.

If Miami wins, the perception will be James came through.

If Miami loses, the perception will be he didn't do enough.

James knows that's the reality. He doesn't mind.

"I play for my teammates, our team, the city of Miami, my friends and family, and I gave it all for that," James said. "And at the end of the day, win, lose or draw, I'm satisfied with that. I don't get involved in what people say about me and my legacy. I think it's actually kind of stupid."

By now, the story behind James' rise to a champion is no secret. He left Cleveland in 2010 because he felt Miami

gave him a better opportunity to win titles. In 2011, when Miami lost to Dallas in the final round, James said he was relying too much upon proving his doubters and naysayers wrong.

So the next season, he vowed to play the game the way he had in the past. Championship No. 1 came in 2012, championship No. 2 came last season in an epic seven-game series against the Spurs, and now the shot at No. 3 is here.

"He's really taken his game to a whole other level," Heat guard Dwyane Wade said. "Obviously as an individual he's grown, as a man, both on and off the court from his own experiences. So I think he's done a phenomenal job. ... If I sit back and look from afar, he's done an unbelievable job under the microscope that he's been under since he was

16 years old of doing things his way and been very successful at doing them."

If James is feeling pressure right now, it doesn't show publicly.

Away from the public eye, though, teammates have marveled all season about how

someone who makes more than \$50 million a year in salary and endorsements is working perhaps harder than ever.

"Nothing he does is normal," Heat forward Michael Beasley said. "He practices wearing a weight vest. Does that sound normal?"

James spent the majority of his question-answering time Wednesday laughing or smiling. Off-stage, he joked with a few other people, chatting and seeming as relaxed as he would if this was the eve of a Heat-Spurs game in January, not one in June.

The Spurs are worried about stopping James, they know that won't happen.

"We understand LeBron is the best player in the league and just physically he's just a monster," San Antonio forward Tim Duncan said.

In 2007, when the Spurs swept Cleveland, James was still learning.

In 2011, he felt like he absolutely had to win, and failed to get it done.

In 2012 and 2013, he just played the game the way he felt it needs to be played. And it's

no coincidence that it's all fallen into place since.

"Every time I come up here and talk to you guys or I do something, you know, very well on the basketball floor or off the floor, my city is rewarded by that," James said. "My family is rewarded by that, my friends are rewarded by that, the kids and all the kids in the world that look up to me are rewarded by that. That's enough to get me by. Everything else is extra credit."

once I got ahead."

Murray will be playing in the French Open semifinals for the second time; he lost to Nadal in 2011. In all, Nadal owns a 14-5 edge in their head-to-head matches.

"I need to recover very well," Murray said, "and try to be especially calm for that one."

The other men's semifinal will be No. 2 Novak Djokovic against No. 18 Ernesto Gulbis.

Earlier, No. 4 Simona Halep of Romania and No. 28 Andrea Petkovic of Germany both moved into the semifinals of a Grand Slam tournament for the first time. Thursday's other women's semifinal will be 2012 champion Maria Sharapova against 18th-seeded Eugenie Bouchard of Canada.

Halep beat 2009 champion Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-2, 6-2, and Petkovic defeated 2012 runner-up Sara Errani by that very same score.

A year ago, Halep arrived at Roland Garros ranked 57th. But over the past 13 months, she's won seven titles. Petkovic, meanwhile, is enjoying a resurgence.

She made it to the top 10 in 2011, when she was the only woman to reach three major quarterfinals (although she went 0-3). In late 2012, she hurt her right knee, and her ranking plummeted to 177th last year. But she's worked her way back, and after eliminating Errani, the gregarious Petkovic kissed her racket - something she said she'd never done before.

"Everything happened very fast," Monfils said.

Said Murray: "It was so dark at the end. Thankfully for me, he played a poor fifth set

Attorney: Donald Sterling agrees to sell Clippers

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling agreed Wednesday to sign off on selling the team he has owned for 33 years to former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer for \$2 billion, bringing the possibility of a resolution to weeks of rumors, uncertainty and looming possibilities for legal action. The agreement hadn't been officially signed Wednesday afternoon, according to an individual with knowledge of the negotiations who wasn't authorized to discuss them publicly. But Donald Sterling's attorney, Maxwell Blecher, said he "has made an agreement with the NBA to resolve all their differences." Sterling gave his consent to a deal that was negotiated by his

wife, Shelly Sterling, to sell the team, Blecher said.

Representatives for Shelly Sterling and the NBA declined to comment.

The agreement was an about face for Donald Sterling, who just last week filed a \$1 billion suit against the NBA in federal court alleging the league violated his constitutional rights by relying on information from an "illegal" recording that publicized racist remarks he made to a girlfriend. It also said the league committed a breach of contract by fining Sterling \$2.5 million and that it violated antitrust laws by trying to force a sale. Blecher said that as a result of the agreement, the federal suit will now be dismissed.

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04

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Shocker Nation back on track, tops Pelicans

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Shocker Nation recovered from its previous loss with an 86-79 triumph over the Pelicans in the second game in the 2014 DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last Tuesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

The win was Shocker Nation's fourth in five games, putting the team in solo second place behind the unbeaten San Antonio (5-0) and Island Manpower (5-0). Shocker Nation absorbed its lone loss in the tournament so far at the hands of the defending champion Docomo (2-3).

The victory over the slumping Pelicans (1-4) was a come-from-behind one, as Shocker Nation was behind by 9 at the break, 34-43. A 31-11 scoring run in the third put Shock Nation back on top and it kept the upper hand and the victory after playing steady in the last three minutes of the fourth canto.

Shocker Nation showed poise

in the closing minutes after the Pelicans sliced the once double-digit deficit, 54-65, to a deuce, 71-73, with Leo Galarse anchoring the team's fight back in the final period and drawing some help from Luizi Reyes.

Reyes could have cut the lead to 1 if not for his split charity and after he made his second free throw, Shocker Nation went to attack the Pelicans defense on the other end. A drive-and-draw play at the right baseline started by Shane Deleon Guerrero and finished by Adrian Palacios fooled the Pelicans' defense and gave Shocker Nation more cushion, 75-71, 3:01 left on the clock.

Lester Vertudez then made it a 76-71 advantage when he intercepted the Pelicans' inbound pass and converted a point-blank shot. Shocker Nation was never threatened after that as it matched every basket the



Pelicans drilled in the last two minutes of the match.

Meanwhile, Island Manpower also fought back against TBK Mechanics so stretch its winning run to five and grab a share of the lead with San Antonio.

Down at 64-76 after the third period, Island Manpower unloaded 33 big points in the payoff canto to steal the victory from TBK (3-2).

Jerome Norita towed Island Manpower back into the game after drilling 13 of his 23 markers in the fourth period. He, Cecilio Bisana, and Syl Teregeyo scored clutch baskets for Island Manpower in the closing minutes of the match. Pete Lizama and Ed Pangelinan also helped in the fourth, combining for 11 points.

TBK lost the lead and the game when its main gunners Ivan Devero and Jack Quitugua were held to 5 points in the fourth frame. Devero had only

two field goals, while Quitugua was limited to one free throw, leaving Nate Mateo the tough job to keep TBK afloat.

First Game

Island Manpower 97 – Norita 26, Bisana 17, Tabora 14, Pangelinan 13, Teregeyo 13,

Capalad 6, Lizama 6, Quizon 2. **TBK Mechanics** 96 – Mateo 28, Quitugua 24, I. Devero 20, C. Devero 7, Catalla 7.

Scoring by quarters: 20-32, 42-52, 64-76, 97-96.

Second Game

Shocker Nation 86 – De-

leon Guerrero 22, Vertudez 18, Palacios 15, Cadiang 11, De Leon 10, Cabrera 4, JP Vil-lanueva 2.

Pelicans 79 – Galarse 27, Ogumoro 15, Reyes 14, Bren-nan 9, Santos 8.

Scoring by quarters: 19-16, 34-43, 65-54, 86-79.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Shocker Nation's Adrian Palacios pulls up for an uncontested jumper, as the Pelicans' Mike Babauta looks on during the third quarter of their game in the DL Corp. caging last Tuesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Wild Bill's still leads M-League

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Wild Bill's forced a draw against Korean Football Association to Saipan to remain on top of the leaderboard in the M-League.

Jack Thoensaket drilled a game-tying goal in the 48th minute to help Wild Bill's improve to a 14-4-0 win-draw-loss record and 46 points in Division 1. Wild Bill's is ahead by one win against Tan Holdings FC (13-2-4) and two over Inter Godfather's (12-2-5).

KFAS remained at fourth place with its 11-5-4 slate. It threatened to hand Wild Bill's its first loss in the league when Byung Kwan Ohng found the back of the net in the 28th minute of their match last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



However, Wild Bill's battled back in the second half with an early goal from Thoensaket.

Two more games were played last Sunday with Tan Holdings capitalizing on the depleted MP United crew en route to an 8-0 win and Sun Palace and the Thundercats settling for a draw in their Division 2 match.

Sean Perez had a hat-trick for Tan Holdings, while Ruselle Zapanta chipped in two goals.

J.J. Takano, Bradley Brostrom, and Jershwin Angeles added one goal apiece.

In the Division 2 match, the

Thundercats scored first off Timothy Tawanpiy's goal in the 41st minute, but Sun Palace equalized in the second half, thanks to Jin Jihu's goal in the 60th minute.

Women's league

Meanwhile, only two matches in the 2014 NMIFA Women's Spring League were played last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

The first game between Paire and Shirley's FC resulted in a forfeit for the latter, as the former did not have enough players for the match. The opposing teams, however, still play a friendly game.

In the second match, Matansa won over Tan Holdings FC, 1-0. Pratoom Stoffer scored the lone goal in the Matansa victory, as she hit her target in the 32nd minute.

In the third tiff, Kanoa had a similar 1-0 triumph over MP United. Marielle Gariguez scored for Kanoa FC three minutes before the first half ended.

CNMI

From Page 36

(U15), Thea Minor (U18), and Carol Lee (U12) completed the CNMI sweep after topping their respective divisions. Race's players also took five of the six doubles crown to smoke their competition.

In this year's regional cham-

pionships, only the U18 and U12 age group competitions will remain, while the tournament will revert to the U14 and U16 events. The Top 4 players in each age group will earn slots on the North Pacific Team that will compete against the East and West in the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji

In the POJC, the CNMI had the best showing (in terms of Top 4 finishes) for the last three years. Last year, the Commonwealth bets grabbed eight semis seats—the most by any nation. In 2012 and 2011, the CNMI also secured the most Final Four slots with six and five, respectively.

TALAVERA

From Page 36

In the singles division, there was also a close battle with the winner decided by only five pinfalls. Raul Dumapit earned 612 pinfalls to prevail against Raphael Zapanta, Ronald Batac, and Ramir Deleon, who logged identical 607 pinfalls for the three-way tie for runner-up honors. Dumapit nearly posted 200 pinfalls in each of the three games with his 199 in Games 1 and 3 and

214 in Game 3. Batac had two 200-plus pinfall game (207 and 236), but his 164 in Game 2 cost him the singles crown. Zapanta also earned 200-plus pinfalls in two games (202 and 236), but had a meltdown in the last game with his 169 pinfalls. Ramir De Leon fell short too, because after registering 219 and 204 in the first two games, he marked only 193 in Game 3.

In the women's division, Gloria Omechelang recorded 1,575 to down Diana Camacho

(1,511) and Yho Villavicencio (1,496). She then teamed up with Tess Fabie in the doubles to hand Diana Camacho another bridesmaid finish. The Omechelang-Fabie tandem collected 1,085 pinfalls to defeat Diana Camacho and Emi William's 1,011. Carrie and Janice Camacho rounded out the Top 3 with their 970 pinfalls.

In the singles event, Diana Camacho this time finished on top. She gathered 583 pinfalls to win over Omechelang (561) and Vilavicencio (536).

MESSI'S

From Page 36

title win in the African region fortify the Eagles' chances to march into the next round.

Bosnia-Hersegovina could be the team standing on Nigeria's way past the group stage, as the World Cup debutant was impressive during the qualifier. The newcomer won eight of its 10 matches and lost only once, posting the fourth most goals (30) in the European zone. Bosnia-Herzegovina has quick, young, and persistent players that can cause problems for Nigeria.

Iran is the dark horse in Group F with its roller-coaster performance during the qualifier. Iran, one of the stronger teams in Asian zone, is hoping that with former Portugal coach

Carlos Queiroz now calling the shots for the squad, the Iranians will past the group stage.

France is favored
After faltering in the group stage in 2010, France is expected to make it to the next round and top Group E, too.

The throng of Euro leagues players on France's roster and arrival of Didier Claude Deschamps in 2012 make the Les Bleus the team likely to place first in its bracket despite the higher ranking of Switzerland. The Swiss is the top-ranked team in Group E at No. 8, but the squad has yet to win the Cup, while the No. 16-ranked France did it in 1998. Joining the two Euro zone teams are Central America's Honduras and South America's Ecuador.

Switzerland topped the

Group E of the Euro zone qualifying with its unbeaten record (7-3-0) and is best remembered for beating eventual champion Spain, 1-0, during the group stage in 2010.

Honduras was also in South Africa, was bracketed with Switzerland, Spain, and Chile, and bowed out of the group stage. Back then, Honduras had an ageing lineup, but this year, fresher legs are suiting up for the Los Catrachos.

Ecuador finished a strong fourth in the South American qualifying with its 7-4-5 slate, beating Uruguay in the goal difference point and the La Tricolor will bank on that strong showing to make it past the Round of 16, their best finish so far in three World Cup appearances. Ecuador has a nice mix of experienced and youth players.

Wild Bill's forced a draw against Korean Football Association to Saipan to remain on top of the leaderboard in the M-League.

Jack Thoensaket drilled a game-tying goal in the 48th minute to help Wild Bill's improve to a 14-4-0 win-draw-loss record and 46 points in Division 1. Wild Bill's is ahead by one win against Tan Holdings FC (13-2-4) and two over Inter Godfather's (12-2-5).

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Slumping
Tigers lose
again, 8-2
to Blue Jay
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Saipan Tribune Sports



Nadal, Murray
set up French
Open semifinal
matchup
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36 FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2014

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI still has strong team in regionals



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Negahr Rasguyi, seen here competing in this year's Coconut Classic, is among the 17 CNMI players heading to Guam this weekend to participate in the 2014 North Pacific Championships.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

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REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Tennis Team is sending 17 players to Guam for the 2014 North Pacific Championships.

The list includes U18's Colin Ramsey, U16's Negahr Rasguyi, U14's Luther Lizama, Vincent Tudela, Haruya Eda, Steven Goodwin, Tania Tan, Julia Ishikawa, Mimi Sakano, and Ami Tsukagoshi, and U12's Robbie Schorr, Ken Song, Aditya Rai, Malika Miyawaki, Conatsu Kaga, Jireh Warren, and Asia Raulerson.

The Commonwealth's youth players will see action in the regional tournament, beginning on Monday until next Saturday at the Rick Ninete Tennis Court, and will challenge the representatives of the host, the Federates States of Micronesia, and Palau.

"Obviously the names of several of the NMI's best junior players are not on the entry form this year. This is largely due to school going very late this year. Several kids would miss finals or graduation if they went to Guam," CNMI coach Jeff Race said in an email to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday. "Others are starting high school in August



and don't want to miss the first couple of weeks in their new school by going to Fiji.

Despite the absence of some key players, Race is still confident with the Commonwealth players' chances against representatives of the three other nations.

"We still have many strong players though. I believe we will still be the strongest team there, but I am quite sure that I'll be able to keep my hair this year. There's a silver lining to every cloud," the CNMI mentor added.

Last year, Race had his head shaved when his wards swept the singles crown and took all 12 slots on the North Team during the regional championships held on Saipan. In the boys division singles last year, Jake Lee ruled the U18 age group, while Michael Ren and Chris Cajigan prevailed in the U12 and U15 divisions, respectively. In the girls category, Negahr Rasguyi

See CNMI on Page 35

Messi's Argentina top-bills Group F

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Any team with a Lionel Messi on its side will surely be a contender, so Argentina is highly picked to top Group F.

Add to Argentina's roster Carlos Tevez, Javier Mascherano, and Angel Di Maria, who have shown impressive performances with their Euro clubs, and you have a formidable team that is expected to bounce back from a quarterfinals exit in the 2010 World Cup in South Africa. Messi and company were shut down by Germany in the Round of 8, 4-0, dropping Argentina to fifth place.

In a bid to redeem themselves from the quarterfinal loss in the 2010 competition, Argentina showed its might against the rest of the teams in South Africa. The La Albiceleste owns the longest winning streak in the region (14) and lost only



one match during the qualifier, while scoring 35 goals.

With Argentina a shoe-in for one of the two spots to the next round, Nigeria, Iran, and World Cup first timer Bosnia-Herzegovina are left to battle for the remaining slot.

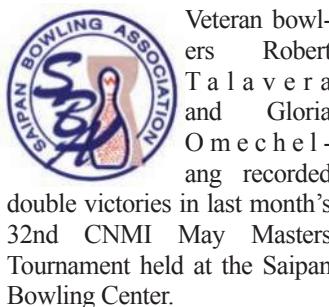
Nigeria has the slight ad-

vantage over its two other foes, record-wise, having reached the Round of 16 twice (1994 and 1998) and having made it to the World Cup for the fifth time. The presence of Chelsea star John Obi Mikel and Nigeria's

See MESSI'S on Page 35

Talavera, Omechelang triumph twice

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Veteran bowlers Robert Talavera and Gloria Omechelang recorded double victories in last month's 32nd CNMI May Masters Tournament held at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Talavera won the all events division and also finished first in the doubles contest after teaming up with Alex Castro. In the all events, Talavera collected 1,793 pinfalls to beat the 1,745 and 1,712 of Raymond Angeles and Raul Dumapit, respectively. The all events champion posted 579 in singles, 615 in doubles, and 599 in team to average close to 200 pinfalls (199.22) and win by 48 pinfalls against Angeles.

In the doubles, Talavera and Castro's winning margin was



Gloria Omechelang is flanked by Diana Camacho, left, and Yho Villavicencio after receiving their cash prize in the 32nd May Masters Tournament during the awards ceremony at Kanoa Resort late last month.

just three points. Adding Castro's 532 pinfalls, the champion duo rounded out with 1,147 pinfalls to edge Angeles and Rusty Musca's 1,143. Angeles registered the higher score on his team with 609, while Musca tallied 535. Completing the Top 3 in the doubles event was the pair of Paul Pangilinan (533) and Percy Omechelang (599), who totaled 1,132 pinfalls.

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